هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

No 61,755 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1984 20p

THE TIMES

Monday

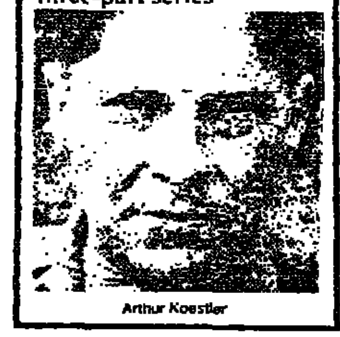
First . . .
Will Torvill and Dean add Olympic gold to their list of titles? John Hennessy reports

. . . class . . .
A question of class for the SDP

. . . advice
Best value in skiing holidays – on and off the slopes

Last tango . . .
Empires come and go, but in Vienna, the ball never ends

. . . in Paris
The Koestler story, an "autobiography by two hands": the first meeting in Paris. Part One of a three-part series



Arthur Koestler

Agreement on TV-am rescue

Technicians at TV-am have agreed to a plan to change work practices and shift patterns that should save £1.5m a year and secure the company's immediate future. Earlier, the company withdrew its demand for redundancies

Tax cut hopes raised again

The Chancellor has increased his leeway for tax cuts in the Budget by up to £500m by excluding public sector bank deposits from the definition of the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement

Kenneth Fleet, page 2

Hope on shares

After a 30-point fall in New York's Wall Street share market, and signs of a similar decline in Britain, investors remain confident about the long-term outlook

Family money, pages 24 – 29

Jail alternative

The Home Secretary is studying a plan to empower courts to impose community service on fine defaulters rather than send them to prison Page 2

Scargill protest

Miners protesting against the 14-week overtime ban over pay confronted Mr Arthur Scargill at a pit in south Derbyshire

Page 2

Master in mind

A dash of unseemliness has entered the debate over who will take over when Sir Alan Hodgkin retires as Master of Trinity College, Cambridge

Page 3

Down today

Astronauts in the shuttle Challenger are due to land at Cape Canaveral today after an eight-day 3.2 million mile round trip

Page 4

Pop star to wed

Elton John, the British pop star, is to marry in Sydney next Tuesday, his publicist said. The bride is Miss Renata Blauel, whom he met in London.

Air black spots

A report prepared for the European Parliament pinpoints the danger spots in European air traffic and indicates the principal causes of accidents Page 4

Three sixes

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean scored three marks of 6.0 in winning the compulsory section of the ice dance competition at the Winter Olympics. The men's downhill was postponed through bad weather Page 31

Leader page, 9
Letters: On Queen and Commonwealth, from Professor A. Low, and Mr J. Shapiro; pregnancies, from Dr R. G. Edwards, and Dr P. C. Steptoe; hedgerows, from Mr G. Curtis, and Mr C. Dickinson
Leading articles: Andropov; Harold Macmillan
Features, page 8
Andropov's shaky legacy: Bernard Levin on a theatrical experience not to be missed; Moscow's vital role in the Middle East, by David Owen; Woodrow Wyatt urges the Government to stand firm on union postal ballots

Home News	2,3	Law Report	33
Overseas	4-6	Parliament	2
Arts	7	Religion	10
Bridge	19	Services	10
Business	21-29	Snow Reports	31
Chess	19	Sport	30-32
Court	10	TV & Radio	34,35
Crossword	36	Theatres, etc	19

Funeral details point to Chernenko as successor

Andropov dies after 15 months in power

● The death was announced yesterday of President Yuri Andropov of the Soviet Union. His funeral will take place in Moscow next Tuesday
● The British Government has made clear its desire to continue the process of improving relations with the Eastern block and Mrs Margaret Thatcher is being urged to attend the funeral
● The United States intends to press for a resumption of nuclear arms reduction talks. Vice-President Bush has cancelled a tour of Europe because of President Reagan's continued absence in California
● One contender for the succession is Mr Konstantin Chernenko, the most senior Politburo member, who will organize the funeral (page 4)

By Richard Owen, Our Moscow Correspondent

The Soviet Union has been plunged into a fresh succession crisis by the death of President Yuri Andropov, announced yesterday, 15 months of rule, six of them from behind the scenes. He was the fifth Soviet leader, after Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev and Brezhnev.

Tass said last night that the funeral would take place in Red Square next Tuesday. Mr Andropov's body will lie in state in the Hall of Columns near Red Square today, tomorrow and on Monday. Mr Andropov died on Thursday.

A medical bulletin signed by the Politburo surgeon, Dr Evgeny Chazov, gave the cause of death as "heart and vascular insufficiency". It said that Mr Andropov had suffered from blood fluctuations and diabetes, complicated by chronic kidney insufficiency, and he had required dialysis treatment from February, 1983 onwards.

Treatment had been initially effective, allowing Mr Andropov to work, but the condition had worsened at the end of last month, with "degenerative changes in internal organs and progressive hypotonia".

The funeral commission will be headed by Mr Konstantin Chernenko, aged 72, the Politburo member who lost the power struggle to Mr Andropov in 1982 after the death of Brezhnev.

This could be a signal that Mr Chernenko, who is the most senior Politburo member and the Central Committee secretary, is to take over, even if only as an interim leader. Mr Andropov heded the funeral commission after Mr Brezhnev's death, the first sign of his ascendancy.

On the other hand Mr Chernenko is regarded as a throwback to the Brezhnev era, and his appointment could be a reflection of his formal status rather than political power.

Observers said that the impact of Mr Andropov's rule, the shortest in Soviet history, would depend on whether youthful supporters such as Mr Mikhail Gorbachov or Mr Grigorii Romanov gained the upper hand in the 13-man Poliburo.

A key role is being played by Marshal Dimitri Ustinov, the Defence Minister, who is regarded as the Poliburo "king maker" and may be an interim leader himself.

The news of President Andropov's death was read out on Moscow radio and television. The announcement said that the leadership informed the people "with great sorrow" that Mr Andropov, described as "an outstanding leader of the Communist Party and the state", had died at 4.50 pm on Thursday afternoon, Moscow time, after a long illness.

"The name of Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov, a staunch fighter for the ideals of communism and peace, will always remain in the hearts of the Soviet people and all progressive humanity", the announcement said.

There were unconfirmed reports that doctors had attempted a kidney operation this week as Mr Andropov's health deteriorated. He had not been seen since last August, and suffered from kidney and heart diseases as well as a diabetic condi tion.

He was taken to hospital last December, but this month officials claimed that he had returned to his dacha outside Moscow and was supervising Soviet policy.

Officials repeatedly insisted last autumn that Mr Andropov had a "cold" or "chill". Only this week Mr Leonid Zanyatin, the Kremlin's chief spokesman, insisted in Helsinki that Mr Andropov was "recovering".

There was initial confusion on Thursday evening when some Soviet radio and television channels broadcast solemn music while others continued to broadcast normal scheduled programmes, including coverage of the Sarajevo Olympics. There were similar contradictory signs in November, 1982, when Brezhnev died.

The funeral may be an occasion for foreign leaders to assess the new leadership as well as to pay their respects to Mr Andropov.

Diplomats said that the funeral could be used by Western heads of government to make a fresh start in East-West relations after a year of tension and mutual bitterness over arms control. The Geneva arms talks collapsed last November when Moscow walked out, and none of Mr Andropov's statements since then had suggested a change of heart.

The first indication that a leadership crisis was in the offing came last Saturday when Marshal Ustinov suddenly cancelled a trip to India. Delhi was told not the Defence Minister had "domestic preoccupations".

On Tuesday Mr Igor Andropov, the President's son and a Soviet delegate to the Stockholm disarmament conference, left Sweden for Moscow

When Mr Andropov came to power there was a swift transition, with his chief rival, Mr Chernenko, conceding defeat at a politburo meeting the day after the death of Brezhnev.

It was not clear last night whether any of the leading contenders had achieved a similar position in the latest power struggle during the six months of Andropov's illness.

Mr Chernenko is in relativley good health. The lost key party posts during the Andropov era but still retained his rank as the formal number two in the Politburo, chairing meetings in Mr Andropov's absence. Candidates for the post of General Secretary must normally be both Politburo members and Central Committee secretaries.

Observers said that if the Politburo wanted to choose a more forward-looking leader it would opt for Mr Gorbachov, aged 52, or Mr Romanov, aged 61. Mr Gorbachov appeared to be Mr Andropov's own choice in his final months, although this is not necessarily an advantage. Mr Romanov, the former Leningrad party leader, has powerful supporters but only moved to Moscow to become a Central Committee secretary last June.

Mr Andropov became Party Secretary in November, 1982, but was not elected to the state Presidency until June last year. He made a number of key changes to the Politburo and Secretariat – some of them during his long illness – and introduced limited reforms in industrial management, agricultural methods and the educational system.

Front runners in the succession	4
America hoping to improve relations	4
Fears of the Eastern block	4
Andropov's shaky legacy	8
Leading article	9
Obituary	10
Dollar strengthens in world markets	21



Mr Andropov: Condition worsened last month.

Thatcher urged to attend funeral

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

As Mrs Margaret Thatcher was urged by politicians of all parties to go to Moscow for President Andropov's funeral, the Government made clear its desire to continue with his successor the process of improving relations between East and West.

Although many at Westminster, including some in her own party, were voicing the opinion that a visit would provide the natural opportunity for the Prime Minister to build on the acknowledged success of her try last weekend to Hungary, it was said officially that no decision would be made about representation until more was known about the arrangements being made for the funeral by the Soviet authorities.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in remarks which echoed the warmer tone of recent British utterances about the Soviet Union, said that he wanted the Soviet leadership to know that the Government remained committed to the search for an improvement in relations between East and West.

He expressed the hope that the new Soviet leader would follow the direction signalled by Mr Andropov in his message on January 24 when he spoke of the benefits of dialogue.

The Foreign Secretary spoke, in a BBC radio interview, of the high degree of continuity in the Soviet leadership, which was a collective one, and added that the death would not be the cause of increased tension between East and West. There would be no new initiative; Britain's initiative was a sustained one.

Downing Street, in a short statement, said that Mrs Thatcher learnt of Mr Andropov's death with regret, and that his loss would be widely felt.

Privately senior ministers were saying that Mr Andropov's death was likely to foreshadow a period of uncertainty in Soviet foreign policy, making it far more unlikely that the Russians would make any precipitate moves in the Middle East.

Mr Denis Healey, Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said: "Now that President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher have changed their position and said they want to have good relations with Russia they should take immediate advantage and try to get in touch with the new leadership as quickly as possible."

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader and a former Foreign Secretary, said that he hoped both Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher would go to the funeral. If Mr Reagan went it could transform East-West relations, he said.

Washington to seek improved relations

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday made it clear that it intends to make use of the change of leadership in Moscow after the death of President Andropov to press for improved relations with the Soviet Union and a resumption of nuclear arms reduction talks.

It is possible that President Reagan may travel to Moscow for the funeral as a gesture of his desire for better relations. However, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said that no decision to attend would be taken until Washington had been notified of the funeral arrangements.

Vice-President George Bush, who was due to leave on a three-nation tour of Europe yesterday, was ordered to remain in Washington because of President Reagan's continued absence in California, where he is on holiday on his ranch. It is likely that Vice-President Bush will represent the United States at the funeral if Mr Reagan does not attend.

In a formal reaction to the news of Mr Andropov's death, Mr Shultz said that the US remained ready for "a constructive and realistic dialogue with the Soviet Union. In this nuclear age the United States will work to build a more stable and positive relationship."

Mr Shultz said that the US wanted to find solutions to "real problems, not just to improve the atmosphere of our relationship. This applies in particular to the task of reaching equitable and verifiable agreements for arms reduction and reducing the risk of war." The US invited the Soviet Union to join it in the search for peace, he went on. "There are opportunities at hand. Let us find common ground. Let us make the world a safer place."

The tone of Mr Shultz's statement was in marked contrast to the strong anti-Soviet rhetoric used by the Reagan Administration, particularly by the President himself, during much of the past three years.

Because of Mr Andropov's prolonged illness, his death did not come as a surprise.

Answering questions from journalists Mr Shultz said that President Reagan would be prepared to attend a summit meeting with the new Soviet leader so long as such a meeting had a good chance of producing substantive results.

Prsident Reagan was awakened with the news of Mr Andropov's death in the middle of the night. White House aides said that the President, who has already come under fire for not returning to Washington to deal with the crisis in Lebanon, had no plans to curtail his holiday because of Mr Andropov's death.

Confusion in Olympic village

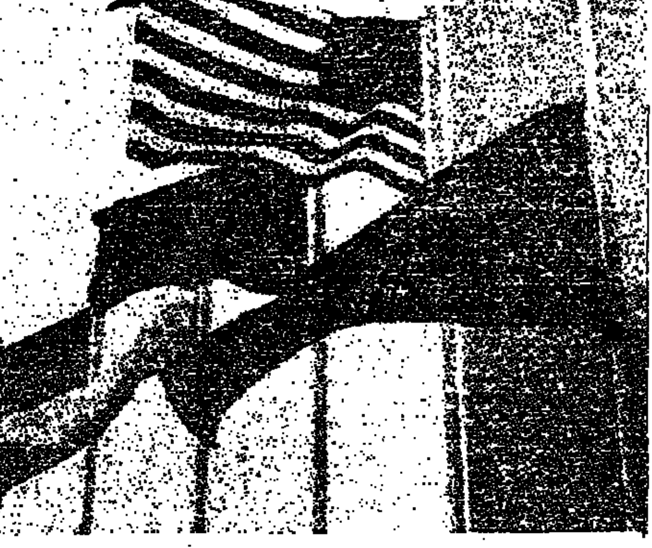
Sarajevo (AP) – Soviet and Yugoslav flags at the Olympic village were lowered to half mast yesterday to mark the death of President Andropov, but the Winter Olympic Games will not be cancelled.

Soviet athletes were reluctant to comment when approached by Western reporters and most expressed disbelief that Mr Andropov had died.

A speed skater, Sergei Berezin, from Gorkiy said "They haven't informed us".

Tamara Moskvina, a Soviet figure skating coach, was told about Mr Andropov's death by a reporter.

Asked if it could affect the Soviet competitors' performances, she said: "For me it's such unexpected news that I can't tell you now. I just can't find the words, because it's so



The Soviet flag at half mast in Sarajevo yesterday.

Cheysson breaks embargo

M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, was the first to tell the world of President Andropov's death when he unwittingly broke an embargo on release of the news imposed by the Kremlin on world governments.

In Brussels yesterday to attend a meeting between the European Economic Community and the 64 other Lomé Convention countries, M Cheysson was asked by a journalist what his reactions were to stories about the Soviet leader's death.

M Cheysson, believing wrongly that the embargo had already been broken, told the meeting what had happened.

Royal Navy flies 400 out of Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With heavily armed Druze militiamen and US Marines standing joint guard at both ends of the west Beirut seafront corniche, hundreds of British and American residents of the Muslim sector of the Lebanese capital were evacutated to Cyprus yesterday in a fleet of Royal Navy and US Marine helicopters.

By late afternoon almost 400 British subjects and Commonwealth citizens, together with Swedes, Belgians and Germans, had been airlifted off the Corniche by four Sea King helicopters, each emblasoned with a large Union Flag, which made 22 flights between the road outside the British Embassy and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Reliant steaming off the Lebanese coast.

Meanwhile Lebanese government officials claimed that the Lebanese and Syrian Foreign Ministers were likely to meet in Damascus today and President Gemayel's broken administration may then make a formal offer to abrogate the May 17 unofficial peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel. The pact, which is already regarded as a dead letter by the Israelis, is bitterly resented by the Muslim opposition in Lebanon and the treaty's destruction has been the first demand of both Syria and the Druze during the past week's fighting.

The Saudi Foreign Minister, Prince Saud el-Faisal, is also expected at the Damascus meeting although no word has been received from Syria that it is to take place.

As Britons from all over west Beirut made their way by car and taxi to the Embassy through streets that still retained the eerie calm that has prevailed since Tuesday morning's shelling, Israeli jets could be seen high over the capital. And even as the first Royal Navy helicopters were approaching the seafront, the

Continued on back page, col 8

Off-course IRA rocket hits school

From Richard Ford Belfast

Twelve schoolboys escaped death yesterday when a Provisional IRA rocket missed its army target and smashed into their classroom.

The boys, aged five, were with their teacher at St Aidan's Roman Catholic Primary School in Whiterock, West Belfast, when the Russian-made RPG7 rocket blasted through the blackboard and hit a wall.

None of the terrified children was injured but they and their teacher, Miss Alacoque Logan, were treated for severe shock.

Brother Paul Dunleavy, the headmaster, said: "It is a miracle none of the children was hit. I am horrified that this has happened. It is a terrible thing when a school classroom with children is hit like this."

Miss Logan said: "Staff are angry that these people can have complete disregard for children's lives."

The rocket had been fired at an armoured car after a gang had held a family hostage overnight in a house near by.

Politicians urged Mr Gerry Adams, Provisional Sinn Fein MP for Belfast West, to condemn the action of his party's military wing. Miss Mary McMahon, a Worker's Party councillor, said: "These men are engaged in acts like this for political propaganda and if innocent people get hurt they write them off as casualties of war."

The bungled attack is certain to be privately criticized by leading members of Provisional Sinn Fein as it risked innocent lives in a strongly nationalist area of Belfast.

The Provisional IRA admitted that four volunteers had carried out the attack and said it would hold an investigation.

Last night detectives were questioning several men.

First fall in prices for 14 years

By Frances Williams Economics Correspondent

The Government's inflation hopes received an unexpected pre-Budget boost yesterday from news that prices fell by 0.1 per cent last month. It was the first reduction in 14 years to reflect lower prices in the shops rather than a cut in the mortgage rate. The yearly inflation rate dipped to 5.1 per cent from 5.3 per cent in December.

The January fall in the retail price index to 342.6 (January 1974=100), was due mainly to price reductions in the sales on clothes, footwear and household goods. While the impact of the sales will fade this month inflation prospects have been helped by the latest petrol price war and by the strong possibility of a cut in the mortgage rate in the spring.

Commenting on the inflation figures, the last to be published before the Budget next month, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said they were "a highly encouraging start towards achieving our target of a further fall in inflation this year".

Last November the Treasury predicted a drop in inflation to 4.5 per cent by the year-end, after peaking at about 5.5 per cent in the spring. Its latest forecast, looking ahead to summer 1985, will be published on Budget day, but James Capel, the stockbroker, said yesterday that 4 per cent inflation by Christmas was on the cards.

The cost of living also fell in September and December 1982, but both figures reflected a cut in the mortgage rate. Shop prices have not fallen on average since the summer of 1970.

Little upward pressure on inflation is in evidence, despite warnings from industry that more companies may be preparing to raise prices. Relatively few increases are in the pipeline.

Officials at the Department of Employment also point out that a 4p cut in petrol prices would knock 0.1 per cent off inflation while a 1 per cent cut in the mortgage rate wuld cut the cost of living by 0.3 per cent. The Building Societies Association yesterday agreed not to recommend any immediate rate reduction, but if heavy inflows of savings continue a cut after the Budget is possible.

Leading companies match Esso cut

Esso's 4p a gallon cut in the price of petrol has been matched by Shell, BP, Mobil and Texaco with Conoco, which owns the Jet chain, making a 5p cut. Four-star petrol is now under 180p a gallon for the first time in almost a year

Motorists' gain, page 3

Brittan is considering community service for fine defaulters

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

New penalties are being considered by Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, to reduce one of the biggest burdens on the prison service: fine defaulters.

About 25,000, or a quarter, of receptions into prison a year are of offenders who do not pay their fines, though the time they spend inside is short and the number of them there at any one time is small.

Mr Brittan said in Liverpool yesterday that he was considering whether courts should be given the power to award community service to fine defaulters as a substitute for the unpaid amount.

That would overcome expected difficulties that have deterred the introduction of the present powers to use community service for defaulters.

Under the present power, in the Criminal Justice Act, 1972, but never brought into force, people ordered to do community service could by paying the fine, "buy themselves out". That would not be possible under the new measures the Home Secretary has in mind.

Mr Brittan, who was addressing Liverpool City Bench, said that faster follow-up action against defaulters might encourage them to pay. Imprisonment should be used only as a last report.

Fine defaulters are one of the targets the Home Secretary has in mind as part of the wider aim of keeping people out of prison who do not need to be there as a counterbalance to ensuring that those who do serve sentences they deserve.

Mr Brittan also wants action to deal more appropriately with drunks. He has found drawbacks in Birmingham's experimental "wet shelters" to which police can take drunks instead of charging them. He is instead studying schemes to use cautions.

● Mr Brittan yesterday opened a £750,000 Liverpool police station which was completed four months ahead of schedule (the Press Association reports).

He had to face a demonstration by about 30 people outside the red brick building. Most of the chanting, banner-waving crowd were from the Free Dennis Kelly Campaign. Kelly was convicted of murder last year. His supporters say he was wrongly imprisoned.



Shipmates: The Prince of Wales spent yesterday at sea with a friend he had not seen since his wedding day. The Prince patrolled around Liverpool Bay on board the mine countermeasures vessel HMS Walkerton, getting experience of life in the fishery protection squadron. But much of his trip was spent renewing a friendship with the ship's captain, Lieutenant-Commander James Rapp, who was navigating officer in HMS Bronington when the Prince was in command in 1976-77.

Shah and NGA in new fight

Mr Eddie Shah, owner of the Messenger newspaper group, and the National Graphical Association are set for a new High Court battle over the company's claim for £75,000 damages.

Mr Shah, whose printing works in Warrington were besieged by secondary pickets last year, claims he incurred the losses during the dispute.

Both sides attended a private hearing at Warrington High Court where Mr Shah was asking for a summary judgment which would mean that the union would not be able to present its case. But Mr John Shaw, the district registrar, ruled that the NGA could give evidence in its defence.

● Employers covering 100,000 printworkers outside the newspaper industry yesterday demanded a deal over new technology before agreeing to a wage rise.

● An agreement has been reached allowing the magazine *Motorcycling Weekly* back on the bookstalls, the National Graphical Association said yesterday.

Court releases UDA leaders

Two leaders of the paramilitary Ulster Defence Association were released by Belfast Magistrates' Court yesterday after an informer, Stanley Smith, withdrew his allegations against them and seven other men.

Andrew Tyre, aged 40, its supreme commander, and John McMichael, aged 35, head of the UDA's political wing, had been accused of possessing firearms and withholding information.

Water challenge

Mr Dafydd Wigley, the president of Plaid Cymru, was yesterday given leave to challenge water charges in Wales, in a campaign which maintains that Welsh water rates are subsidising cheap water for English towns and cities.

Belfast shuttle

Competition over British Airways' London to Belfast shuttle flights will go ahead after the Government rejected the airline's appeal against a proposed rival service by British Midland Airways.

Correction

In the libel action against the *News of the World* Mr Justice Comyn advised the jury to award exemplary damages "if, and only if" they considered that the newspaper knew the allegations to be untrue. He did not say, as reported yesterday, that the newspaper knew they were untrue.

Shipbuilders' deal fails to rally yards

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

None of British Shipbuilders' six main yards had won the full agreement of its workforce for the introduction of the state company's radical productivity package by yesterday's deadline.

Some of the yards, which represent more than half the 60,000 workforce, expected the deal to be ratified at mass meetings, but none could claim a clearcut agreement.

Manual workers at naval yards, Vickers at Barrow in Furness with 12,500 employees, and Yarrow on the Clyde, with more than 5,500, have rejected the deal. The 4,600 workforce at Vosper Thorneycroft, Southampton, are still debating the issue.

Union leaders at the yards, which build warships, believe that they can win more than the £7 a week on offer, when they are eventually privatized.

More disappointing for British Shipbuilders was the inability to arrive at agreements within the main yards which manufacture merchant ships and oil rigs and which will stay within the state company.

Most of the 3,500 workers at Cammel Laird at Birkenhead have rejected the package, but others, believed to be mainly white-collar workers, have accepted it. The result puts a question mark over the future of the yard. A £125m order for a production platform for Sun Oil of the US, is crucial to its prospects but has yet to be confirmed.

At Swan Hunter on the Tyne, with a total workforce of 7,300, and Govan on the Clyde, with 2,500 employees, mass meetings have yet to be held, but in each case management is hopeful.

At Swan the meetings are to be completed by Tuesday and at Govan the boilermakers, who as in all the yards are most affected by the productivity package, are to decide at a meeting on Monday.

British Shipbuilders said it was difficult to comment on the situation because the picture was not clear. But there is a possibility that those who have not strictly adhered to the deadline would still qualify for back pay from November 1 of £100.

The company's proposals, which mean considerable changes in working practices, were agreed by national union officials on the eve of a threatened all-out strike in January.

Trafalgar House said last night that senior executives would be meeting local unions at Scott Lithgow on Wednesday to discuss its future plans for the yard. It was still confident that its bid would succeed.

Sit-in threat

Workers at Scott Lithgow on the Clyde yesterday threatened to occupy the shipyard if a takeover deal was signed without their approval.

More than 3,000 walked out on Thursday in protest at the announcement of the "provisional sale" of the yard to the property group, Trafalgar House.

A mass meeting yesterday decided they would occupy the yard if no agreement had been reached over its future by February 29.

Envoy case men lose costs plea

The police are entitled to hold people "helping them with inquiries" for up to 60 hours or even longer without charging them "in wholly exceptional circumstances", two High Court judges in London ruled yesterday.

For that reason, the judges dismissed an application for legal costs made by the Kashmir Liberation Front in connexion with the case of two of their officials held by West Midlands police investigating the murder of Mr Ravindra Mhatre, the Indian diplomat in Birmingham.

Mr Hashim Querashi, national chairman of the front in Pakistani Kashmir, and Mr Aman Uhlla Khan, national president of the front in Britain, were released at 1pm on Wednesday after action was taken to free them through writs of habeas corpus in the High Court.

Both men had been arrested at midday on Sunday.

● Birmingham detectives joined passengers on a city bus last night in an attempt to trace the last movements of Mr Mhatre shortly before he was kidnapped and murdered a week ago (Craig Seton writes).

Powell's 'proof' of hunger strike deal

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down South, has given *The Times* a document which he says "illustrates" negotiations to end the 1981 hunger strike in Belfast's Maze prison between the Northern Ireland authorities and Brendan McFarlane, who was later to lead the mass IRA breakout last September.

He was handed the document, marked confidential and which he describes as deriving from prison records, at the end of Thursday's debate on the Maze escape during which he said that successive hunger strikes had been "bought off".

That claim was denied by Mr Nicholas Scott, Under-Secretary at the Northern Ireland Office.

The document reads as if it is a log of dealings between May and October 1981, when the last hunger strike ended, involving the hunger strikers, McFarlane, a Northern Ireland Office official (Mr C. Jackson), and various intermediaries.

Mr Powell told *The Times* that Mr Scott had contradicted him when he said the strikes were ended on terms negotiated between the Northern Ireland Office and leaders of the National H-Block Committee in Dublin. Yet here was the timetable of McFarlane and here was the negotiation in progress.

Mr Powell said the chronology in relation to the meeting in November 1981 between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, was important. That meeting could not have been set up if the hunger strike was still going on.

The text of the document begins:

4.5.81 Father Murphy visited McFarlane in an attempt to end hunger strike. The answer was No.

4.7.81 McFarlane to prison hospital to see hunger strikers.

5.7.81 Irish Commission visited all hunger strikers in prison hospital and McFarlane

Mr Powell said in the debate: "There was the initial hunger strike at the end of 1980 and the major hunger strike which occupied the greater part of 1981. Both protests... were bought off. Both these were brought to a conclusion by an agreement.

"But they were not an operation on their own ... they had a direct relationship with two political events.

Communist old guard fears party purge

By Rupert Morris

An unprecedented purge within the British Communist Party was signalled yesterday in a statement from the executive.

The executive has accused the management committee of the People's Press Printing Society, the cooperative that owns the *Morning Star* – Britain's only Communist daily newspaper – of "repudiating the special relationship between the party and the paper".

The accusation is based on the society's refusal to observe an executive recommendaton to replace the *Morning Star* editor, Mr Tony Chater, and his deputy, Mr David Whitfield.

Yesterday's statement means that although the newly dominant Eurocommunist leadership has been putting pressure on the editor for some months, it is now attacking long-serving Communists in the society, including influential trade unionists.

The statement accuses the society of "reversing its position" by refusing to discuss editorial appointments with the party executive, and of deliberately distancing the newspaper from the party.

Supporters of the editor, ranging from hard-line Stalinists to left-wingers suspicious of the party's apparent move away from Moscow, suspect that the leadership is preparing for disciplinary moves against leading Communists within the society.

The party's general secretary is Mr Gordon MacLennan, but its most influential figures are probably Mr George Matthews, a former *Morning Star* editor, and Mr Martin Jacques, editor of *Marxism Today*, a theoretical journal which has increased its readers by giving space to wider debate on the left.

Pit pickets denounce Scargill

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, yesterday faced demonstrators from his own union protesting about the 14-week-old overtime ban.

Surfaceworkers at Rawdon Colliery, south Derbyshire, stopped work as he visited the pit to discuss the National Union of Mineworkers' campaign against the 5.2 per cent offer and pit closures.

The 50 men formed a picket line at the colliery's main entrance and held aloft a banner saying: "Stop bending the rules, Scargill, let's have a ballot".

Mr Scargill told them that the overtime ban had not been ordered by him but by a democratically convened national delegates' meeting.

Liberals are playing on anti-Benn feeling

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Chesterfield

Chesterfield Liberals have launched a highly personal campaign against Mr Tony Benn to try to woo Conservative and moderate Labour voters at the by-election on March 1.

Mr Max Payne, the Liberal/Alliance candidate, has told potential Tory voters that if they support Mr Nicholas Bourne, the Conservative candidate, then "Chesterfield will become Benn-land".

In a quick canvass in the north of the constituency yesterday, Mr Payne told voters "We have overtaken the Conservatives".

It has become standard practice for the Alliance to suggest that by-elections have become two-horse races and that voters should tactically switch away from a "no-hoper".

Nevertheless, there are indications that Mr Benn's left-wing reputation might jeopardize Labour's majority of 15.6 per cent of votes cast last June.

A Central Television poll, published on Thursday, gave Labour 46 per cent, Alliance 29 per cent, and Conservatives 23 per cent.

The Liberal said yesterday that a BBC *Newsnight* poll had given Labour 42 per cent, Liberal/Alliance 32 per cent and Conservatives 26 per cent.

An NOPsurvey published in the *Daily Mail* yesterday gave Labour 47 per cent, Conservatives 27 per cent, and Liberal/Alliance 25 per cent.

Mr Benn and Mr Payne attended a CND meeting last night. Mr Payne, who is opposed to unilateral nuclear disarmament, said that he did not support deployment of cruise missiles without dual key control.

MPs likely to criticize GCHQ ban

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government could be seriously embarrassed by the publication of a report by an all-party Commons committee that appears likely to criticize its handling of the ban on trade union membership at the Cheltenham communications headquarters.

Conservative members of the Select Committee on Employment accept that they are probably powerless to prevent broadly critical majority conclusions emerging because of the fierce opposition to the ban of the senior Tory, Mr John Gorst MP for Hendon North, who resigned on Thursday as their unofficial leader in protest at what he called excessive interference by the whips.

The committee, which has six Tory members and five Labour, including the chairman, Mr Ronald Leighton MP for Newham North-east, meets on Tuesday to draw up its reports, which it hopes to publish on Wednesday.

The drafting will be based on a chairman's draft report, drawn up by Mr Leighton in cooperation with the clerks, taking account of the views expressed by individual MPs during and since the inquiry. Conservative members fully expect it to oppose the Government's line.

Of the five other Tories, four were first elected in June. Their problem is that although they may wish to back the Government, they are without a leader to coordinate their response and draw up amendments.

Long-span bridges for review

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

A review of all long-span bridges is to be carried out because of structual failures in the Severn Bridge, for which remedial action costing £33m was announced by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, this week.

The bridges are longer than 60 to 75 metres and include, the Humber, Medway, Avonmouth, Forth, Tamar, Wye, Newport, Erskine, and Kessook bridge.

The review, which will take several years, will be carried out in order of priority according to traffic and structural strength.

It is emphasized that the review not imply that weakness of the kind noticed in the Severn Bridge has emerged, or is even suspected, elsewhere.

A review of big bridges was last carried out in 1972-73 by the Merrison committee after the failure of box-girder bridges in Milford Haven and Melborne. As a result many bridges of that type were strengthened.

The new review will not be confined to box girder types – Forth, Humber, Wye and Avonmouth – but will include long-span bridges of all types.

It is being conducted in the light of two factors: that lorry traffic has been much heavier than predicted in the 1960s and 1970s when many long-span bridges were built; and that strength criteria have been tightened in the past two years.

Traffic growth across the Severn has, however, been far greater than on any other.

The longest bridge, across the Humber, has embarrassingly little traffic.

It is the two-and-a-half times extra growth in heavy traffic that has been primarily responsibly for projected work on the Severn. Its main features are:

Strengthening of twin towers from which the main cables are suspended. Without such work there is a remote possibility that the towers could collapse. To increase safety margins additional steel columns are to be placed inside the towers, then jacked up to take the strain.

This work, of a highly sensitive nature, will require complete closure of the bridge for up to 48 hours, but the work is expected to be spread to minimize disruption.

Strengthening of bridge decks, primarily by welding additional steel on the inside of the 10ft-deep deck. Without it the structure could give way under heavy traffic.

Renewal of hangers, wires providing stiffening and stability to the bridge by connecting the deck to main suspension cable. The present wires are suffering from fatigue and corrosion.

Strengthening of spray saddle (rocker box) which holds the ends of the main cable. The saddles are thought to have an insufficient safety margin.

Extra ballast around feet of anchorages at either end of bridge, to anchor more firmly

HOW AN £8M* BRIDGE IS COSTING ANOTHER £33M

*£45m at today's prices

- Contractors' profit and overheads £8.2m
- Design developments and uncertainties £5.7m
- General re-surfacing and re-furbishing £5m
- Design and supervision £3.1m

TOWERS: To be strengthened with internal columns and new tops £1.6m

BRIDGE DECK: To be strengthened with new welded steelplates, webs, bearings, and stiffeners £5.7m

HANGERS: To be renewed £2.3m

SPLAY SADDLES £90,000

ANCHORAGES £300,000

● Extra strengthening to Wye Bridge and viaducts, 1 mile to west, and to Aust Viaduct, at eastern end of Severn Bridge £2.8m

Overseas selling prices: Austria Sch 29; Belgium B Frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 9.00; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Fr 7.00; Germany DM 3.00; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gld 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 50; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 10.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $4.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

PARLIAMENT February 10 1984

Financial protection of air travellers

COMMONS

The Government is setting up a special review of arrangements for financial protection of those who travel by air on holiday and the review will extend to those who travel on scheduled air services, Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, announced in the Commons adjournment debate.

He said the Department of Transport had not yet selected a chairman for the inquiry but was considering suitably qualified people. He expected the review to be completed speedily.

The matter was raised by Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline, West, Lab) who urged segregation of the financial affairs of any licensed holiday operator within a group of companies and that money paid for holiday purposes should not be used to finance, for example, engineering enterprises in the same group.

Mr Mitchell said that the recent annual report of the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency had perhaps cast a cloud over the travel trade. He hoped to set the fears of holidaymakers at rest.

Bonds were usually sufficient to meet all claims arising from the failure of a holiday company. The present level of the reserve fund was £16m – more than twice it had to pay out as a result of a failure.

It would not be sensible to review the fund without considering licensing requirements and the bonding levels which together formed an integral system.

The inquiry would consider whether the fund needed to be increased in size or whether it should stand but needed added protection, perhaps by tighter licensing and bonding requirements, or whether an entirely different set of arrangements might serve the holidaymaker just as well.

The Government would also like the review to consider whether, if the fund was to continue, it should also apply to scheduled air services.

It was not an idea to which the Government instinctively warmed as the private sector already seemed capable of affording protection to such travellers. However, there was no logical reason why those who bought air package holidays should be in a more privileged position than others travelling by air.

We must be sure that some arrangements exist (he said) whereby holidaymakers can be certain their deposits are safe.

Tax credits scheme expensive

SOCIAL SERVICES

Advocates of a tax credit system must acknowledge, Mr Anthony Newton, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said in the Commons, that any scheme that would not entail heavy losses for some would be very expensive to introduce. For the time being it would be easier to find simplification by looking at particular parts of the system.

He said one reason why the DHSS should not run away from attempting to make some contribution to the curtailment of public expenditure was because the size of its budget was such that unless it made a contribution the chances of raising tax thresholds, the most practical way of solving many problems, would be much reduced.

Opening a debate on future provision of welfare services and benefits, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Wealden, C) said that if something were not done to meet the rapid growth in social services it would not be the dismantling of the welfare state that would be discussed but how soon it would go into liquidation.

Mr Peter Hordern (Horsham, C) said that a tax credit scheme would cost more but money could be found by taxing investment in investment funds. He hoped the coming green paper would revive interest in credit tax.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said if there was a crisis in the financing of the welfare state, it was not because the level of



Thurnham: Nation returning to sound money

benefits was too high but because the tax base to support it had been persistently eroded to build up the alternative welfare state largely concentrated on the rich.

Let us hear no more about a crisis of welfare state funding (he said) because if all so-called fringe benefits were properly taxed as they should be, there would be no need to hit pensioners or low-income families by chopping £200m off housing benefit; no need to tax the unemployed or sickness benefit; no need to abolish earnings related unemployment benefit which workers have earned and no need for all the other punitive measures against the poor to which the Government has resorted in the name of public expenditure saving because they say the nation could not afford them.

Mr Peter Thurnham (Bolton, North-East, C) said the problem was how to achieve a higher rate of economic growth. After 20 years of fiscal stimulation which had failed to produce the needed growth, he was pleased that the nation had returned to sound money policies.

He hoped that the Chancellor would take the opportunity to simplify the tax structure. He suggested a flat rate of 10 per cent VAT on all goods and services rather than charging it, for example, on chocolate biscuits and not on cream cakes.

Mr Antony Newton, replying, said the welfare state had not been formed perfect and whole. If some Labour MPs were to take it over it might soon be in the same state as the shipbuilding industry which refused to face up to modern problems and the need to change.

There had been a huge improvement in general health standards in Britain. The extent to which the social needs was met would depend on the extent to which the economy produced the goods, the resources. Planning must take account of the availability of resources. Promises made without regard to this were not worth making at all.

The debate concluded.

Wrong for Government to intervene

REUTERS

Government interference was not the way to preserve the integrity of Reuters, Lord Lyell, the Government spokesman, said in the House of Lords in responding to a demand by Lord Grimond (L) that there should be an inquiry into the planned flotation of the news agency.

All too easily, said Lord Lyell, Government interference could endanger the very independence and integrity which it was sought to preserve. With the record of Reuters behind them, the board and trustees were entitled to be believed when they said their purposes was to serve the objectives set down in 1941.

The future could never be certain, but the history of Reuters endorsed the view that independence from Government should not be jeopardized. Safeguards for Reuters lay in the professionalism of the agency itself, its staff and their concern for its reputation and reliability. These were things no Government could guarantee.

Lord Grimond (L) said he did not suffer from the general feeling of paranoia about press barons. There were no doubt good and bad ones. There was considerable interest about the freedom of the press as commercial property. The assurances of some press barons had not always been carried out. There was some suspicion about them.

We can only hope (he said) they take note of the public anxiety and the general view that Reuters cannot be dealt with purely on commercial grounds.

Lord Lyell said there had been comment on the proposed flotation in the media and elsewhere recently but the Government believed some of this had been premature.

Reuters was not important for its news gathering alone. It had a long history of providing financial and other information to private subscribers. The management had had to consider its future financing needs. The debate concluded.

Seeking more cash for applied science

RESEARCH

It was not for the Government to devise a plan for industry and technology; only firms could take the necessary decisions, Lord Lucas of Chilworth, a Government spokesman, said during a debate in the House of Lords on the joint report by the chairman of the Advisory Council for Applied Science and Development and the Advisory Board for the Research Councils.

Firms had access to the detiled and day-to-day information about the marketplace said the minister. Their future survival depended on their getting the decisions right. Where the Government could help was in its support to the key technologies on which the future of industry would be based.

The Government had protected the science budget and had responded to particular needs and problems facing scientific research and development would automatically be solved by the provision of more public funds.

The Secretary of State for Eduation and Science (Sir Keith Joseph) had written to the chairman of the University Grants Committee asking the committe to consider what measures could be taken to increase the resources devoted to fundamental and applied science.

The UGC were consulting the universities and following their replies the UGC would give consideration to the recommendations.

Lord Sherfield (C), who opened the debate, said there was a clear message in the joint report of the need to concentrate much more attention on the selective exploitation of research which was available both at home and abroad.

Motorist to reap benefit of petrol 'war' with price cuts and free gifts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Motorists will find a full-scale price war at the petrol pumps from Monday morning as the oil companies follow Esso in reducing prices and Shell in launching marketing campaigns to win customer loyalty.

All the big oil companies, Shell, BP, Texaco and Mobil, have followed Esso by reducing pump prices for four-star by 4p a gallon. Conoco, which operates the Jet chain, has cut prices by 5p a gallon.

Shell will lauch a "Make-Money" campaign which offers a total of £2m in prize money. Motorists can win up to £10,000 by matching halves of imitation banknotes.

News of the campaign led to Esso, the largest petrol retailer, cutting its prices. Shell has now followed the Esso price cut.

Other companies have marketing campaigns ready to launch. Mobil is about to offer its customers tokens on each purchase which will be redeemable on any item on sale at its forecourts – "from petrol and oil to chocolate bars and garden gnomes".

"The fact that we have all followed with similar price cuts means we are back to square one. The motorist will benefit but there is a danger that the Chancellor will now feel that he has more scope for petrol duty increases than the 8p that had been anticipated", one oil company official said.

"Since BP attempted to increase prices last spring and was forced to retreat when the other petrol companies undercut it, four-star petrol has remained at an average of 183.7p a gallon.

Petrol station operators have increased margins for some months but the petrol companies have argued that this has been at their cost, with dealers being subsidized, and that little profit has been made by the oil companies from sales at the pumps.

For that reason all the companies have been attempting to increase forecourt sales volume and return to the days of the early 1970s when marketing campaigns led to a degree of brand loyalty.

The companies have been developing their sites to make them more attractive to motorists and to offer a wider range of goods on sale.

The new price cuts will also lead to a return of free-gift promotions, with drivers being offered items such as glasses and pottery mugs with their petrol. Mugs and soup bowls have been the motorists' favourite gifts, according to market research.

One oil company spokesman said yesterday: "A wet spring could help our sales. We have a warehouse full of folding umbrellas which we could give away with every tankful sold."

Man and 5 children die in fire

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Six members of a family, including two young twins, died yesterday in a fire that destroyed the interior of their council house. Neighbours trying to rescue them from the blazing house at Tonyrefail, Mid Glamorgan, were beaten back by intense heat.

The six who died were Mr Kevin Fisher, aged 26, and his stepchildren, Yvonne, aged 20, Denise, aged 13, Amanda, aged six, and twins David and Damien, aged two and a half.

Yvonne fell back inside an upstairs room after screaming for help to save the young children. She could have saved herself, but apparently returned in an attempt to rescue the children.

Mrs Lynda Fisher, aged 39, and her son, Craig, aged 10, were persuaded by neighbours to jump from a bedroom window. Last night Mrs Fisher, who has been married five times, was said to be in severe shock in hospital and Craig's condition was described as fair.

Last year Mrs Fisher lost both her parents, and her daughter, Natasha, born as a triplet at the same time as David and Damien, also died.

Mr Kenneth Parsons, a part-time fireman, had been alerted by his bleeper and ran out to discover the fire was in his own street. With Mr Wayne Murphy he broke the fall of Mrs Fisher and Craig, and tried to put a ladder up to a bedroom window but failed because of the heat.

Two teenage neighbours, Diane Owen, aged 18, and her sister, Lisa, broke down the back door before being driven back by flames.

Mr Tom Bailey, a senior divisional fire officer, said: "The two youngest died in their beds, probably without knowing anything about the blaze".

A fund has been launched for Mrs Fisher.



Fire victims (from top): Yvonne, Denise, and Amanda, all killed; and Craig, who survived.

Railway death

Mr Horace Alden, aged 63, of Creighton Avenue, St Albans, Hertfordshire, whose total deafness made him unaware of a warning horn, was killed on Thursday after being hit by a train on a level crossing

Publicans to fight betting office Bill

By Rupert Morris

Publicans are campaigning to block a private member's Bill that would allow betting offices to install televisions and soft drinks machines.

The Bill, introduced by Sir Ian Gilmour, Conservative MP for Amersham, and due for debate on March 23, is supported by the Home Office, bookmakers and gamblers.

But publicans fear that on Saturday afternoons in particular they will lose trade from customers who leave to place a bet, returning to the public house to drink and watch the racing on television.

Mr David Carter, national secretary of the National Association of Licensed House Managers, said: "We are concerned that our members will lose trade if this Bill becomes law. We also think this could be the first step towards betting offices applying for licences to sell liquor and we have sought several MPs' support on this matter."

MPs could block the Bill at the committee stage, but the most serious obstacle to its passage is probably the Commons timetable.

The bookmakers, who are intensifying their campaign for the Bill, argue that the level of betting tax has led to an increase in illegal gambling with some publicans taking bets over the bar, and put bookmakers out of business.

A 5 per cent drop in betting office licences granted last year compared with the previous year is attributed by the Betting Office Licensees' Association to the 1981 tax increase. That, it says, resulted in off-course gamblers having to pay an extra 10 per cent on all bets, deterring gamblers and resulting in a reduction in the Exchequer's takings.

Sir Ian Gilmour said he hoped that the licensed trade's objections would be seen to arise purely from vested interest and that no group of MPs would mount a sustained campaign against the Bill.



Marumac Crystal, an Irish Wolfhound, at Crufts yesterday with its owner, Miss Mary McBryde, from Trowbridge, Wiltshire (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

'Therapist' dogs to befriend the lonely

At the opening of Crufts Dog Show at Earls Court yesterday a charitable scheme was launched to demonstrate that a dog can be more than merely decorative (Tony Samstag writes).

Drawing from medical research in the United States, PRO Dogs, an animal welfare charity based near Maidstone, Kent, has organized a visiting service designed "to bring happiness and fun into the lives of the elderly, the handicapped and children in residential care".

Such "pet therapy" is being taken increasingly seriously because there is evidence that the isolated and ill benefit from regular association with animals. A scientific symposium on the subject was held in Vienna last year.

PRO Dogs has already accepted more than 100 dogs of all breeds for what it calls its "PAT" (Pro Dogs Active Therapy) scheme.

The only requirement is that the animal must pass a temperament test to establish that it can cope with much friendly attention. The owners, presumably, are expected to be affable too.

Elderly people who have to give up pets when they leave their own homes are especially responsive to the visits, PRO Dogs said from its stand on the ground floor of the Earl's Court stadium.

Elsewhere in the stadium a cheque for £1,800 was accepted by Prince Michael of Kent, courtesy of Flax, a labrador which has its own bank account.

Flax belongs to Commander and Mrs David Ramsey of Chichester, West Sussex, who raised the money by door-to-door collections for the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf charity.

Death pact of shipping firm chief

Sir John Fisher, a shipping firm chief, and his wife Maria took their own lives because they could not face life without each other, a coroner at Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, decided yesterday.

Sir John, aged 91, and his wife, Lady Fisher, aged 78, a former Austrian opera singer, were found dead in her bedroom at their home at Newby Bridge, near Windemere on November 7.

Mr Wesley Ellison, the Furness coroner, told the inquest that it was clear from two notes left that the couple had intended to kill themselves. He said Lady Fisher had suffered pain she could no longer endure since breaking a femur and the "relationship between Sir John and his wife was such that neither wished to live without the other". They died from a drugs and alcohol overdose.

Sir John was president of the Barrow-based shipping firm James Fisher & Son. During the war he took a prominent role in organizing the armada of little ships that rescued British troops from Dunkirk. The couple left a total of almost £2m.

GLC may have own film censor

By Our Arts Correspondent

The Greater London Council may set up its own film censorship board if the British Board of Film Censors does not tighten its restrictions on violence and sex.

A council report, compiled after interviews with more than 20 women's groups, unions, film producers, and anti-pornography groups, says that most believed that some films contribited to violence and mugging, perpetuated racial stereotypes, and portrayed women in a degrading role.

The council member who chaired the all-party committee, Mr Ken Little, said yesterday: "It is clear to us that people across the whole social spectrum are concerned about the effect some films have.

"Violence is by far the most important aspect. The feeling was that violent films must contribute to violence on the streets", he said.

The council has censorship powers over films shown in Greater London, but in practice it allows films to be shown that have a national censors' certificate.

£1,000 fine for demolition

Keith Parnell, a builder who demolished a listed Georgian building without permission from the city council, was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £450 costs by magistrates in Stoke on Trent yesterday.

Parnell, aged 39, whose business is in Elsing Street, Fenton, Stoke, bulldozed the building but denied the charge of demolition, using a section of the Town and Country Planning Act as his defence.

Mr Simon Tonking, for the prosecution, said: "There was nothing about the building which suggested it was in need of demolition. Parnell admits that he did not carry out a full inspection of the premises."

Mr Anthony Curzon for the defence, said the section of the Act permitted demolition if urgently required. He said: "The whole structure of this Georgian building was in dire straits. Parnell had seen the brickwork falling off and a gable caving in."

Replica revolver found in jail

Several inmates at Winson Green prison, Birmingham, were interviewed yesterday after the discovery of a replica .357 revolver which the police believed was to be used in an attempted escape.

The replica, capable of firing blanks, was wrapped in plastic in a lavatory cistern in the visitors' section. It is assumed to have been left there by a visitor.

BBC-ITV satellite scheme dismays advertising agencies

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Advertisers and film-makers are starting to view the prospect of a joint ITV–BBC satellite television service with dismay.

As talks continue on forming a partnership to resurrect the satellite scheme which the BBC postponed because of its cost, the institute of Practitioners in Advertising (PA) has given a warning of grave risks of "the public broadcasting 'duopoly' being given a stranglehold on DBS" (Direct Broadcast by Satellite).

The body, which represents advertising agencies, said yesterday: "If this happens, we are concerned that the vested interests of the current ITV contractors will stifle the imaginative development of DBS, to the detriment of the emergent DBS and cable industry, as well as the viewing public".

The move has also caused concern among cinema groups which fear that the Government may offer a guarantee of no competition to the BBC–ITV partnership as an incentive to launch the £35m project.

Such a guarantee would extend into satellite broadcasting the closed market that the BBC and ITV companies have in buying feature films for showing on television. The cinema companies believe that the closed market keeps their price low.

The IPA has suggested that the satellite contracts should be put out to open tender, and has castigated the commercial television companies which, it says, have enjoyed a privileged position for many years.

"To give them a major commercial stake in DBS would place in their hands a control over media which would enable them to determine for themselves the course of the future development of public broadcast services, the choice of priorities in allocating resources, who should be invited to participate, and what price the adveriser should be made to pay.

"Such a development would seriously undermine investment in cable, indeed it would indirectly give the Independent Television Contractors' Association (ITCA) companies control over UK cable. The substantial investment which the Government seeks from private investors in cable will be placed at risk.

"Those who invest in the development of new programmes for cable would see come spreading of the risks involved if DBS channels offered a potential outlet for their programmes." That was more likely to be the case if the operation of DBS channels was to be open to market tender rather than kept for the benefit of the ITCA.

The number of jobs created by the emergent communications will largely depend on the Government's commitment to encourage innovation and competition, the advertising agencies believe.

Women could soon share top civil servant's jobs

By Richard Evans

Some of Whitehall's most senior civil servants may soon be working part-time or sharing their jobs with women under a government equal opportunities scheme.

Lord Gowrie, Minister of State for the Civil Service, has backed a plan to extend part-time working opportunities and to look at job-sharing schemes. Such experiments should not be confined to the lower Whitehall grades where most of the staff are women, he says, but should be encouraged at all levels.

That could include the highest ranks, such as permanent secretaries who are all men. Mrs Jean Thomason, deputy general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions (CCSU), said yesterday.

"It may be easier for a parliamentary secretary to be part-time than a clerical officer", she said.

The Government's plans comes in the wake of a report entitled *Equal Opportunites for Women in the Civil Service*, produced after a two-year study by Civil Service unions and management, which produced 73 recommendations.

"We want to achieve equality for women in the Civil Service through job opportunity and quality of treatment", Mrs Thomason said.

"The fundamental point that has come across very strongly is that the main reason why women fare less well than men is because they break their careers to have and care for children and to look after elderly relatives."

Inquiry into mansion raffle

Mr Barney Curley, the professional gambler who raffled his Irish mansion in a £1.5m lottery, was preparing last night for a legal battle to stay out of jail.

Dublin police said the draw on Thursday at the house which stands in 377 acres near Mullingar, co Westmeath, was still under investigation by detectives. "A report will be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions."

Mr Curley said that everything about the draw for which almost 9,000 tickets were sold at an average £175 each, was above board.

"I have had the very best legal advice and I am satisfied the lottery was within the requirements of the law", he said at the house, Middleton Park, where he will be staying until June when it will be handed to the new owners.

Mr Curley said he had complied with the law when ticket holders automatically became members of the local

Trinity's top man is sought in whispers

By Peter Hennessy and Lucy Hodges

The gossip mills of Cambridge and Whitehall are beginning to turn on who will be the occupant of the Master's Lodge in Trinity College, Cambridge, once Sir Alan Hodgkin, Nobel prizewinner and eminent scientist, has retired in the summer.

Great efforts will be made to keep the selection process decorous. After all, it is a royal appointment and the Palace is involved. Should it become raucous, steps will be taken to keep the fact from the public.

The mysterious Mr John Catford, appointments secretary at No 10, who was educated next door to Trinity at St John's, has yet to meet in secret conclave for the last time with the senior fellows of Trinity when names of the good and the great will be passed round the table with the Madeira.

The new master will preside over one of the grandest Cambridge foundations, established in 1546 by Henry VIII, which educated the Prince of Wales in 1967-70. He will be responsible for 120 fellows, 220

sustain Trinity's rich portfolio of investments, maintain its ancient buildings and priceless Wren Library, entertain in the grand manner and set a tone appropriate to a citadel of the higher learning. A skill at managing clever, sometimes difficult, people and a taste for the subtler arts of academic politics will be a great asset.

If 10 Downing Street has its way, the choice of successor will be about as open as that of Mr Andropov's. Yet already a dash of unseemliness has intruded thanks in part to the Prime Minister's taste for the more outspoken members of the right-wing branch of the British thinking classes.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will recommend a name to the Queen when Mr Catford has done his rounds.

Already the academic fur is flying around Mr Walter Garrison (Gary) Runciman, aged 49, scion of great Liberal family, benefactor of such progressive causes as the Child Poverty Action Group and – big black mark in Mrs Thatcher book – a sociologist.

convinced Mr Runciman will get the job.

He said: "It would run true to form because the Prime Minister has a habit of giving jobs to her political opponents. She does not like sociologists or tall, landed aristocrats."

"If she appointed anybody on her side she would choose Hugh Thomas [Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, historian and chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, Mrs Thatcher's private think tank], but would anybody in Trinity talk to him?"

There is a kind of cult about the Trinity mastership. Lord Butler, of Saffron Walden, appointed by Lord Wilson of Rievaulx in 1965, captured it in his memoirs. Part of it involves the job going alternately to a scientist and a humanist another pointer to Mr Runciman, a fellow of the college since 1971.

Other names in the gilded frame, according to the gossip mills, include Sir Andrew Huxley, the eminent biophysicist, Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, mathematician and new chairman of the University

bumpy ride with the nation's most famous monetarist but who at 68 might be a little old.

The more racy might press the claim of Professor Sir Dimitri Obolensky, a Russian prince and Professor of Russian and Balkan History at Oxford. He is a former Trinity man and has the virtues of being tall, handsome and very grand, with the appealing habit of wearing a red smoking jacket to tutorials.

To add to the mystery, nobody is sure why Sir Alan could not quite summon sufficient votes among the fellows to stay in the job. He was obliged to submit himself to a complicated reelection procedure on reaching 70. He is described as nice, competent and clever but may have lacked a little of the verve Trinity men like to see in their master.

It is the stuff of which television serials are made. It ends theatrically with the new master thumping on the gate of the Trinity Lodge before steering a stately course across its Great Court.

For the Prime Minister it has its attractions – it is much more fun than picking a

EEC pinpoints danger of air traffic control gaps

From Ian Murray, Brussels

"Substantial and alarming differences" in standards of traffic control in Europe are highlighted in a disturbing report on air transport prepared for the European Parliament (summarized briefly in *The Times* on Thursday.)

Although the chances of an accident are described as literally one in a million, the report makes it clear that odds increase the nearer an aircraft flies towards the Mediterranean.

Italy, Spain and Greece are specifically criticized. The report fears that economies introduced because of the recession could cause standards everywhere to slip.

Britain has one of the highest rates of reported near-misses, particularly involving military aircraft ground control and safety services, however, appear to be good.

A resolution, based on the report, is almost certain to be passed by the Parliament before summer. It calls for better training and radar and more cooperation between member states. The failure to standardize equipment and to centralize controls, it suggests, makes flying more dangerous.

Signor Carlo Ripa di Mena, of Italy, who drew up the report says there is also evidence of counterfeit spares made of inferior materials. These include brakes made of soft steel, bolts which broke after being fitted to new aircraft, fire equipment and parts for helicopters. Attempts have begun to stop trade in these counterfeits, often made in Third World countries.

The report seems generally satisfied with maintenance on the main European airlines, but is concerned that a number of charter companies are using obsolete or worn-out aircraft, particularly outside Europe. However, attempts to impose higher standards in Europe might chase away trade.

Economy measures are also seen as a danger in small companies, in which pilots have been required to do administration and book-keeping

Overall, the biggest problem is inadequate radar control. The Eurocentre at Maastricht, in the Netherlands, which is equipped to coordinate flights in northern Europe is "the most advanced in the world", but south of a line connecting Madrid to Athens, through Rome, there are a number of black spots.

Greece needs to modernize its whole system, the report says. Italy has inadequate radar cover round the adriatic, south of Naples and in Sicily. But Italy is making progress in overcoming this. Madrid, where two aircraft collided on the ground in December, lacked the system which would have prevented it.

There are nationalistic problems: Europe's nations, using their own systems, persist in individual controls, when a Europes wide system would be cheaper, safer and more efficient. The same applies to safety equipment and airport standards.

The overall conclusion of the report is that incompatibility between the various systems in use can cause breakdown in dense traffic areas.

There is also inadequate knowledge of English, the international language of the air.

Pilots' 'danger spots'
Hamburg
Lille
Nantes
Bordeaux
Lyons
Ajaccio
Naples
Corfu
Athens
Rhodes
'LESS SAFE'
ITALY
Heavy interference to radio communications around Rome, Bologna & Milan. Radar weak spots along Adriatic, south of Naples & Sicily. Inadequate sea rescue services
SPAIN PORTUGAL
Radar cover inadequate
GREECE
Air traffic control systems need heavy modernization

When accidents happen %

Standing or Taxiing	Take off	Climb	Cruise	Descent	Approach	Landing	Others
6	20	5	14	6	23	22	4

Duncan Stewart

Shuttle men's press conference in space

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Weather permitting, the space shuttle Challenger will land at Cape Canaveral today to complete the first Florida-to-Florida roundtrip into space. It has been a mission blessed by a historic breakthrough and blighted by expensive failure.

"The forecast right now is good", mission control told the astronauts 24 hours before touchdown on a three-mile runway at the Kennedy Space Centre.

In commercial terms the trip was a disaster. Two communications satellites insured respectively for $100m (£70m) and $75m are now in useless orbit, ironically in perfect order.

As the astronauts circled the earth at 17,000mph in the dying hours of their mission they gave a press conference. Mr Vance Brand, the mission commander, said the eight-day, 3,200,000-mile mission had cleared the way for an attempt by Challenger in April to capture a broken sun-watching satellite.

"I think we feel there has been some adversity but a lot has been accomplished", he said. "We accomplished what was needed to be accomplished to set the next mission into motion for satellite repair."

Mr Brand and the other astronauts, Mr Robert Gibson, Captain Bruce McCandless, Mr Ronald McNair and Colonel Robert Stewart spent 30 minutes answering questions in the televised news conference, conducted from the Johnson Space Centre, Houston, Texas.

Village stays doomed

Pretoria (AP)–A judge yesterday refused to allow a village of blacks to appeal against the South African Government's decision to forcibly move them off land they have owned for generations.

Mr Justice H.P. Van Dyk of the Pretoria Supreme Court turned down a request from the lawyer for an estimated 300 families in the Transvaal village of Nagopa for permission to appeal against the removal order. The villagers have vowed never to leave their homes which once consisted to stone houses on a mountain side. Officials have bulldozed many of Nagopa's buildings, including its school and churches. The Government can forcibly remove so-called "black spots" as part of its master plan for separate development of racial groups. It intends to remove the people of Magopa to another part off Transvaal

Scientists fear bomb holocaust

Rome (Reuter) – A scientists' report prepared for the Pope gives warning that nuclear war could have devastating effects on countries far from a conflict, with deaths from freezing, starvation and disease.

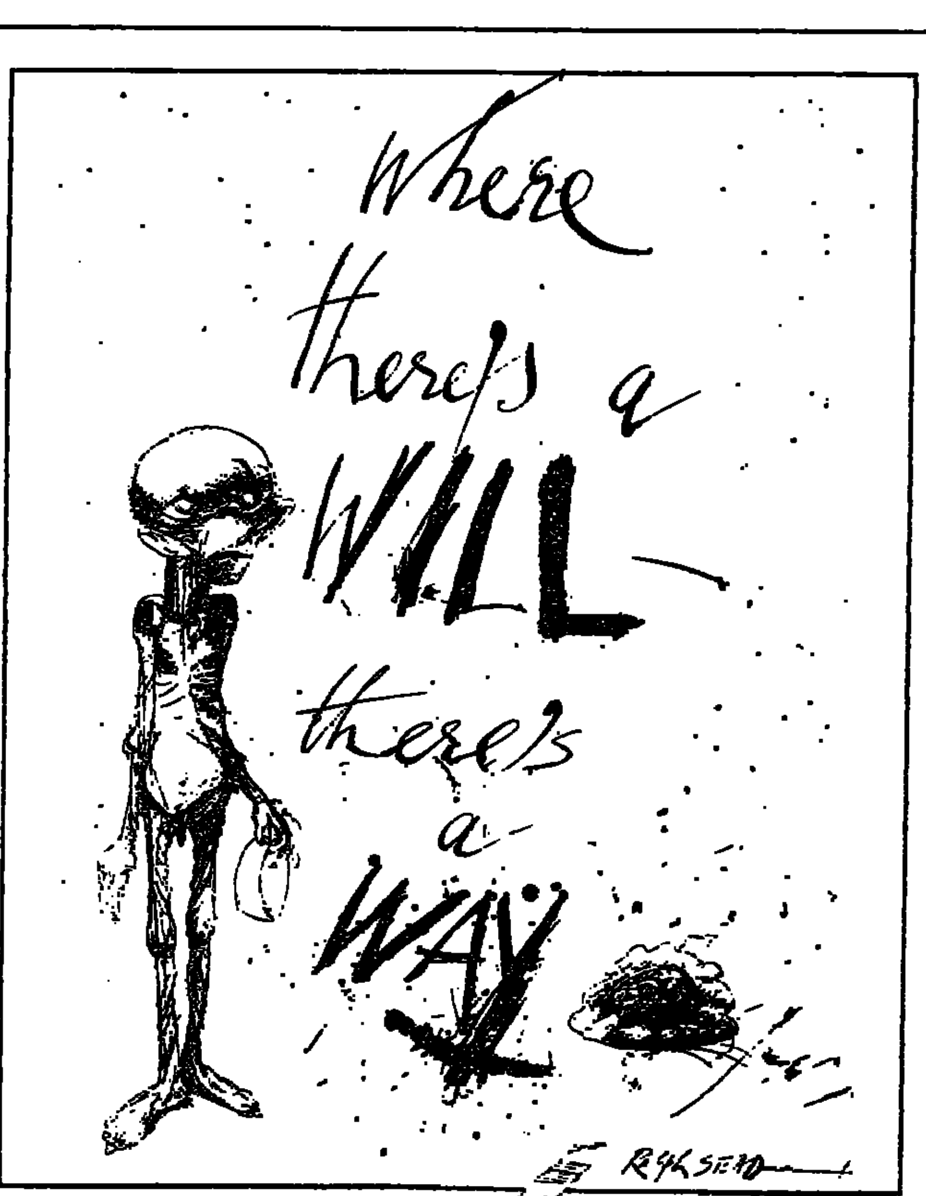
Prepared by 18 scientists, including three Russians and five Americans who met for three days in the Vatican last month to discuss "nuclear winter", the cold effect nuclear blasts could have on the earth, the report said the long-term consequences on the global climate could be worse that the immediate effects.

Shot envoy dies

Rome (Reuter) – The Libyan Ambassador to Italy, who was shot outside his Rome apartment on January 21, died in hospital yesterday. Mr Ammar el-Taggazy never regained consciousness.

Diplomat dead

Sydney (AFP) – Mr Timothy Allison, aged 53, second officer at the British Consulate here, was found dead from a gunshot wound in the head at his home in a Sydney suburb. A spokesman described it as "a tragic accident".



The world after Andropov: A time to reassess attitudes



East meets West: Mr Yuri Andorpov (extreme right) during his Kremlin Meeting with Chancellor Kohl last year – the only time he held substantive talks with a Western leader.

Younger generation fields three candidates

By Richard Owen

The Andropov era can be regarded as a perpetual succession struggle, with Politburo members and their supporters manouevring since last spring, when it became clear Andropov might be no more than a caretaker leader.

Andropov had himself moved to secure the leadership during 1982, months before Brezhnev died. The crisis Politburo meetings which now take place will show whether of any of the contenders has managed to move into a similar position.

Three men of the "younger generation" have been actively preparing for the leadership crisis since last November, when Andropov failed to appear on Red Square. They are Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, Mr Grigoriv Romanov and Mr Geidar Aliyev. Mr Konstantin Chernenko, the Brezhnev protégée, is still a strong force.

If the Politburo chooses an interim figure from the older generation of leaders Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Minister, will have a decisive say: there are rumours that he may remove his military uniform and adopt a civilian role.

A possible compromise figure is the relatively colourless Mr Viktor Grishin, Moscow party boss.

Andropov held three posts: General Secretary of the party, Head of State (Chairman of the Presidium) and Chairman of the Defence Council.

The most important of these is party leader, who may need not be the same person as the President, although both Brezhnev and Andropov combined the posts.

Traditionally the party leader must be both a Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, iun which case only Mr Chernenko, Mr Romanov and Mr Gorbachov would qualigy.

Leading candidates for the party are:

1. Mr Konstantin Chernenko, aged 72. Mr Chernenko was Brezhnevs on choice for leader, but lost the power struggle to Andropov, who had skilfully shed his KGB (secret police) post and manoevered to gain control of the party structure long before Brezhnev died.

Mr Chernenko is still seen as Brezhnev's protegee and has acted as the mounthpiece for Brezhnev era officials victimized by Andropov for corruption, inefficiency and incompetence.

He has suffered from health problems and is regarded in the party as politically lightweight.

He combines Politburo membership with the post of Central Committee secretary, and as the senior party secretary in the Politburo has been acting head of the party during Andropov's long absences.

Last December Mr Chernenko lost a vital post as head of the General Department, which oversees party appointments. To capture the leadership a year after losing it to Andropov would be a remarkable reversal of fortunes.

When cnadidates were nominated for the March Supreme Soviet elections, Andropov was nominated 35 times, Mr Chernenko 10 times and other Politburo members four times. As the senior Politburo member Mr Chernenko has chaired Politburo weekly meetings in Andropov's absence.

2. Mr Grigoriy Romanov, aged 61. If the party wants a vigorous leader it could opt for Mr Romanov.

His main handicap is that he only moved to Moscow as party secretary in June, after 13 years as party boss in Leningrad. Traditionally Leningrad experience has been a drawback rather than an advantage for those with ambitions to reach the top in the Kremlin.

A further disadvantage is that Mr Romanov's name recalls the Tsarist dynasty overthrown in 1917, and even though there is no family connexion, the prospect of a Romanov ruling Russia gives rise to numerous disrespectful witticisms.

In Leningrad Mr Romanov enjoyed an extravagant life style, and was reportedly involved in several scandals.

On the other hand he has a reputation for industrial efficiency, and is a tough disciplinarian in the Andropov mould, though with a cruder manner.

In the Secretariat he has the heavy industry portfolio, which gives him valuable links with the defence industries.

He is a formidable political operator and was probably brought to Moscow by Amdropov to be groomed for higher things.

His success in setting up joint scientific-industrial amalgams in Leningrad has raised his stature. Last month he visited West Germany to attend the Gernan Communist Party congress and gain exposure to the West.

3. Mr Mikhail Gorbacho, aged 52, is the youngest Politburo member. He only joined the Politburo in 1980. On the other hand he has been a Central Committee secretary since 1978, with responsibility for agriculture.

Over the past year his powers in the Secretariat have increased, and he now has responsibility for a range of enconomic questions including light industry, as well as supervision of party personnel.

Like, Mr Romanov and Mr Chernenko, Mr Gorbachov combines Politburo membership with the post of party secretary and is therefore a serious contender for General Secretary.

He made a good impression during a trip to Canada last year, and appears well informed in talks with Western leaders.

He acquired practical experience in agriculture, working on farms, before making a party career in Stavropol region and making a swift move into the Central apparatus.

His youth counts against him. On the other hand both Khrushchev and Brezhnev came to power in their late fifties. If Mr Gorbachov feels that a man in his early fifties should wait until the next opportunity, he may forge a tactical alliance with Mr Romanov.

4. Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, aged 75, represents the armed forces in the Politburo as Minister of Defence and wields enormous power at a time when the military are politically in the ascendant. He helped Andropov in his campaign to reach the top, and will play a key role now. He could himself be a candidate for party, state or government leadership, although this would arouse uncomfortable comparisons with the "Polish model" of military communism and whispers of "Bonapartism."

Marshal Ustinov's cancelled trip to India last Saturday was obviously linked to Andropov's decline, but there are suggestions that the Marshal himself is not in good health.

Mr Geidar Aliyev, aged 60, is from Azerbaihan, and non-Russians are traditionally discounted in the Kremlin power struggle; and unlike Mr Romanov, Mr Gorbachov or Mr Chernenko he is not a Central Committee secretary.

Mr Aliyev's rise has been swift and convincing, however, and he is a force to be reckoned with. Formerly the KGB chief in Baku, and subsequently party leader there, he was marked out by Brexhnev as a full Politburo member. He praised Brezhenev extravagantly when Brezhnev visited Azerbaijan shortly before his death. Yet Mr Aliyev's promotion survived into the Andropov era, and he moved into the Politburo 10 days after Mr Andropov became party leader.

Mr Aliyev subsequently imcreased his powers by becoming Deputy Prime Minister as well. He is ambitious and powerfu.. Under the Andropov regime, he has enthusiastically pursued the drive for discipline, and extension of the anti-corruption campaign he carried out energetically in Azerbaijan.

Other key figures in the drama include:

6. Mr Andrei Gromyko, aged 74; the veteran Foreign Minister has exemplified Soviet foreign policy under Khrushchev, Brezhnev and Andropov. He is not thought to be a candidate for party leadership, but wields great authority in his elder statesman role.

7. Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, aged 78, is a technocratic Prime Minister in the mould of Alexi Kosygin, whom he replaced, and widely respected in the government structure and in the country at large. He is not primarily a party figure, however.

8. Mr Viktor Grishin, aged 69, the party leader in Moscow, is widely seen as a coluorless figure of limited abilities. His very lack of presence, on the other hand, could make him acceptable to all factions if the Politburo is unable to agree immediately on a successor and the power struggle becomes protracted. He is a possible compromise leader.

9. Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov, aged 57, is an outside contender and reached the top only recently. A former Ambassador to Cuba he was recalled by Mr Andropov in 1982 to help implement his anti-corruption campaign on the Black Sea, and was later moved to Moscow as Russian Federation Prime Minister. In December he joined the Politburo.

Actors in Kremlin drama

Chernenko · Romanov · Gorbachov

Ustinov · Aliyev · Gromyko

Tikhonov · Grishin · Vorotnikov

US hopes rise for better relations

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The death of President Andropov has come when relations between the United States and the Soviet Union are at their lowest in years.

However, Kremlinologists in Washington yesterday expressed the hope that a change of leadership in Moscow, together withthe less combative approach now being adoprted by President Reagan, could lead to a gradual thaw in relations.

Since January 16, when President Reagan appealed to the Soviet Union to return to the Geneva arms control negotiations, the US and its Nato allies have been making a concerted effort to improve relations.

But so far the Soviet response has been angry and tough, mainly because of the first deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe. Shortly before his death, Mr Andropov responded to the President's January 16 speech by saying that the Soviet Union valued a dialogue with the US but that it needed "practical deeds" to prove Washington was serious.

This could provide an opening for high-level US-Soviet discussions if the new leadership in Moscow decides to respond to Mr Reagan's overtures, particularly if it believes he will be reelected for another four-year term.

Relations plunged to a new depth with the shooting down of the Korean airliner by a Soviet fighter in August last year. They went from bad to worse when the Soviet Union walked out of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) talks in Geneva last November and later refused to set a resumption date for the crucial Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start).

Although there is an impasse in the nuclear negotiations, the Soviet Union is continuing to take part in conventional force reduction talks. It is taking part in the 35-state Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures and security in Europe and has agreed to return to the 10-year-old mutual and balanced force reduction (NBFR) negotiations in Vienna on March 16.

The present mood in Washington is in contrast to that which prevailed when Mr Andropov came to power 15 months ago. His accession was then cautiously welcomed by the Reagan Administration.

Although no one in Washington expected a dramatic shift in policy under a man who had presided for years over the KGB, it was nevertheless hoped that the indecisiveness of the final year of he Brezhnev era would give way to a greater degree of realism and pragmatism in the way in which Moscow dealt with its rival super power.

The period after Mr Andropov took office seemed to confirm initial US expectations. He turned his attention to the economy and unleashed a drive against corruption.

In the middle of last year General Edward Rowny, the US strategic arms negotiator, reported progress in Geneva, and predicted possible agreement in the months ahead.

In other areas, too, relations began to improve. Then came the Korean airliner disaster. The President and other members of his Administration used the most extreme forms of Cold War rhetoric regarding the incident

However, the verbal attacks on Moscow provoked a hardening of attitude by Mr Andropov, whose health at that stage was already in sharp decline.

The US must now wait to see who is chosen to replace Mr Andropov before assessing the prospects of a renewal of strategic arms negotiations. But Soviet specialists here expect little immediate change and predict a period of collective rule in the Kremlin before the new leader consolidates his position.

Unease in Eastern Europe

Fear of military interregnum

By Roger Boyes

Few people in Eastern Europe mourn the death of a Soviet leader, but in party headquarters throughout the Warsaw Pact there will be an uneasiness, a sense of discomfort, that might pass for grief.

The imperial pretensions of Leonid Brezhnev, the irascibility of Nikita Khrushchev, the terrors of Stalin: all these features were absent from the short sprint of the Andropov era, much to the relief of Moscow's allies sheltering from the gaze of Big Brother. Andropov's blandness, the lack of a personal style or sharp focus, were regarded as virtues in Warsaw, Prague and Budapest.

Andropov's foreign policy experience before taking over as Soviet leader was almost exclusively in Eastern Europe. As Soviet Ambassador to Hungary in 1956, when Russian tanks crushed the revolution, he showed himself to be a skilful crisis manager, if not exactly a lover of freedom.

From 1957 to 1967 he was Central Committee secretary in charge of relations with ruling communist parties. In this role he understood well the East European formula that strives to balance national aspirations with Marxism-Leninism, and make the system acceptable, by sweetmeats or sticks, to the people.

The policy towards Moscow's allies created by Andropov during those post-Stalinist years, remained essentially unchanged when he moved to the leadership of the KGB.

The greatest fear of the East European neighbours is that the new Moscow leadership will try to accelerate economic integration within Comecon (and thus subordinate national economic goals to those of the Soviet Union) and will use the excuse of the new missiles in Western Europe to introduce an era of political conformity.

In November, 1982, Andropov told a plenary session of his Central Committee that the Soviet Union should make better use of the experience of friendly socialist countries. In the summer of 1983, he went into close conclave with Mr Janus Kadar, the Hungarian leader, apparently intent on learning as much as he could about how to reform the economy and the polity of the Soviet Union.

This was an important signal not only to Budapest but also to other members of the Warsaw Pact: Andropov was a "listening" leader.

Key German priority is to preserve contact

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Chancellor Kohl's immediate decision to go in person to President Andropov's funeral in Moscow is an indication of the importance Bonn places on maintaining high-level contacts with the Soviet leadership.

And as the only senior Western leader to have met Andropov – only one month before he disappeared from public view – Herr Kohl paid generous personal tribute to him in a telegram of condolence sent yesterday to Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister. He said: "I would like to express my sincere sympathy over the heavy loss that the Soviet Union has suffered through the death of... Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov.

"The comprehensive talks which I held with the deceased in Moscow in July, 1983, will, even in difficult times, remain in my memory as an important contribution to the necessary continuation of political dialogue between West and East."

Indeed West Germany has tried hard to maintain a dialogue with the Russians even in the worsening international atmosphere and despite the bitter exchange of polemics that led up to the deployment of Nato missiles in Western Europe.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, made a last-minute attempt to keep lines open to Moscow when he met Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart, in Vienna last November. And in a telegram to Mr Gromyko yesterday, Herr Genscher said his country wanted to "continue and deepen cooperation and dialogue between our two countries in the interests of peace in Europe and the world".

Israel faces its biggest crisis since ill-fated invasion

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

When the hard-pressed members of the Israeli Cabinet meet tomorrow to discuss a revised strategy to cope with the chaos of Lebanon, they will be facing their biggest dilemma since the ill-fated invasion was launched on June 6, 1982.

The impeding collapse of President Gemayel's regime, the disintegration of the multinational force and the return of West Beirut to the control of pro-Syrian militias has, in the view of many observers, left Israel potentially in a worse position than when its tanks first rumbled northwards.

"The difference is that now there are 10,000 Israeli soldiers inside Lebanon suffering an average of 15 ambushes a week, and no longer any Major Haddad to control the buffer zone along Israel's northern border," one diplomat said. "It is not so much that Israel is back to square one, in many ways it is back to minus one."

The sense of disillusion long voiced by Opposition politicians about the war is now also detectable in the remarks of some ministers. In the other camp, Mr Ariel Sharon, the discredited former Defence Minister, chose this week to accuse the Israeli Opposition and news media of causing the achievements of the war he launched to be squandered.

The general was speaking only hours after *Al Hamishmar*, the paper of the left-wing Mapam Party, accused him of responsibility "for what has proved to be one of the greatest tragedies for the Jewish people since the Second World War".

The bitter mood was summed up by Mr Yossi Olmert, a Tel Aviv University expert on Lebanon. "Above everything, there is a deep sense of disappointment about the war," he said. "Israelis feel that somehow the West suffered, Israel lost, the Syrians are winning, the Soviet Union is winning and the more radical elements in the Arab world are celebrating."

Against this sombre backdrop, which may yet combine with 200 per cent inflation to unseat the shaky Shamir Government, the Cabinet is under mounting pressure to sanction, at the least, a further deployment of Israeli troops to a new front line south of Sidon and its hostile population

Gemayel may not be dumped

Damascus (NYT) – Lebanese opposition leaders meeting here with Syrian officials and among themselves are reported to be divided over whether President Gemayel of Lebanon should resign.

President Assad of Syria has been holding talks with Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, Mr Suleiman Franjieh, a Maronite Christian and former president of Lebanon, and Mr Rashid Karami, a Sunni Muslim and former prime minister. The three Lebanese leaders were to return to Lebanon soon.

One diplomat said he thought President Assad might decide to make a deal with President Gemayel "rather than with an unknown quantity".

Western sources said they viewed the flurry of meetings here in the past three days as a further indication that the struggle over Lebanon's future had moved from the military to a political phase.

President Assad: Might make a deal

Why a £30 charge was made

By Colin Hughes

The Foreign Office yesterday dismissed accusations that the £30 charge for being evacuated from Beirut was "blood money".

As the last of nearly 300 British civilians in Beirut left for Cyprus last night, the Foreign Office emphasized that the signed commitment to pay £30 towards evacuation costs was a standard procedure.

Two consulates were set up, one in West Beirut, and another at the port of Jounieh where the Cypriot ferry Sol Georghios docked yesterday to take on board evacuees from East Beirut.

The charge was based on the commercial fare from Lebanon to Cyprus. "No one is asked to come up with cash on the spot, and we are not aware of anyone refusing to sign the form on previous occasions", the Foreign Office said.

The same fare was paid by the British who fled Beirut in 1982; those leaving Tehran in 1979 paid £68. The Government makes up the rest of the cost.

Mr Vivian Bendall, Conservative MP for Ilford North, called the fee "blood money" in the House of Commons, but the Foreign Office said: "We are not extorting money from anyone. They have been warned since last September to leave, and they are only paying the same amount towards evacuation that it would have cost them to leave normally.

Robert Fisk in Beirut

British depart with touch of style

It was one of those things the British are supposed to do so well, like the Coronation or the Last Night of the Proms. There on the Beirut promenade stood the beleaguered British citizens of the world's most dangerous city, waiting for the Royal Navy to come to their rescue.

And when the first Sea King helicopter did come throbbing in over the Mediterranean with a massive Union flag on its side, and touched down on the Corniche in a storm of sand, out stepped a handsome, blond-haired naval lieutenant with gold braid on his shoulders, who looked every bit a Hornblower hero.

Of course, things were not quite that simple. Almost half the first 100 evacuees turned out to be Cypriot students with British passports, Canadians and Swedes, and Lieutenant Richard Okill turned out to have some Naval ratings with a smart line in mild abuse. "You spell my name without an apostrophe", the lieutenant announced, at which a Cockney voice was heard to say: "Tell him about the boil on your backside, Sir."

The lieutenant, whose Pembrokeshire accent gave the Beirut seafront a faintly Welsh flavour, stared with something approaching apoplexy at the Druze militiaman who wandered into the British Embassy compound carrying an AK47 automatic rifle with a white carnation taped to the barrel. "Good Lord", he muttered, and one saw his point.

But there was about it all something rather nostalgic, a touch of the Englishman abroad that Noel Coward battles for comfort, and Mr Hector Munro, one of Middle East Airlines' British pilots, who was due for a vacation anyway, and turned up with his wife, Elaine, wearing a rather snappy golfing hat.

There was Mrs Carol Debs, who left her house with her two children last Monday precisely 10 seconds before a shell hit the building next door and filled every room of her home with shrapnel. For some it was the fifth evacuation from Beirut in eight years. Old friends met again in the lines waiting for the helicopters.

The British Embassy staff watched it all like satisfied schoolmasters. The trim and moustachioed figure of Col Cross, the military attache, went about telling the navy how jolly well they were performing and the slightly lugubrious figure of Mr David Miers, the ambassador, engaged in small talk with the departing Britons, a faint smile on his face as if he was bidding farewell to guests at a cocktail party.

There was, too, a gentle, middle-aged lady who smiled a lot but would not give her name and was at first unwilling to talk about the shellfire that had burst around her home last Monday.

"I can describe it to you," she said quietly, in a rather ordinary Home Counties voice. "It was a night of terror. And I also felt peace." She looked at the ground and would talk no more of her discovery.

By mid-morning, the wind had softened and the Sea Kings were flying out at 10-minute intervals to HMS Reliant.

There were few tears on departure which is not really



Flying the flag: British civilians waiting to be evacuated from Beirut by Royal Navy helicopter.

Republicans vent their anger on Reagan aide

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Reagan Administration was confronted by anger and confusion from its own its own party yesterday over its continuing bombardment of anti-government postions in Lebanon and its assertion that US Marines may remain in Beirut for months.

If the relentless naval shelling of hostile Syrian and Muslim targets in central Lebanon and areas east of Beirut continues the President can expect a serious Democratic-inspired Congressional and constitutional confrontation over his "war making" powers.

Mr Kenneth Dam, the Deputy Secretary of State, was greeted by groans and hisses from Republican House members when he told them that the Marines may not be redeployed off Lebanese soil for months, it was an exceptional demonstration of anger from the President's own ranks.

A third of the 1,500-strong Marine contingent is to be moved to ships within 30 days.

The Administration seriously doubts the ability of President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon to survive for long and one source yesterday said Mr Gemayel's resignation might precipitate a swift withdrawal of all the Marines.

Mubarak flies in to consult Mitterrand

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mubarak of Egypt, who arrived in Paris yesterday, is due to hold talks with President Mitterrand on the Middle Eastern crisis this morning before flying on to Washington later today for further talks with President Reagan.

As well as discussing the rapidly deteriorating situation in Labanon, the French and Egyptian leaders are expected to examine the possibility of resurrecting the Franco-Egyptian resolution put before the UN Security Council in July, 1982, calling for the "mutual and simultaneous recognition" of the PLO and Israel, and the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile, France is holding firm to its decision not to pull its troops out of Beirut until they are replaced by a UN force. M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, told the parliamentary foreign affairs committee, that France "cannot desert Lebanon without some solution involving the substitution (of the multinational force)".

There is broad political agreement on the position adopted by the Government. Both the Communist Party, hostile to France's presence in Lebanon, and the right wing RPR party have come out with statements of approval.

The Catholic Church has also expressed support. In a joint statement yesterday, Cardinal Lustiger, Archbishop of Paris, and Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago (which has the largest Lebanese community in the US), said that it was "The duty of the great powers not to abandon Lebanon to an appalling solitude on the grounds of short-term considerations or false pretexts".

With a death-toll of 84 among French members of the multi-national force, most people are anxious to see France pull out of Lebanon. A poll carried out before the latest upsurge in violence showed 47 per cent opposed to the continued presence of the French contingent in Beirut, compared with only 32 per cent in favour. Socialists and Communists were the most in favour of withdrawal.

France's decision to maintain its forces in Beirut at present, while the other three members of the multinational force prepare to withdraw theirs, is not seen as particularly remarkable here. It is accepted that France has greater cultural and historic ties with Lebanon than Britain, Italy, or the United States. The French have also long since come to expect their country to play a key role in world affairs.

M Charles Hernu, the Defence Minister, has cancelled all trips out of Paris to be able to keep in close touch with developments in Beirut where there are 6,000 French residents as well as the 1,240 members of the French contingent. M Hernu has already made it clear that France would be prepared to participate in an eventual UN force in Beirut.

Honduras threatens to help El Salvador crush guerrilla forces

From Alan Tomlinson, Tegucigalpa

The chief of the Honduran armed forces, General Gustavo Alvarez, said his troops may enter the war in El Salvador if it appears that the leftist guerrillas there are defeating the Army.

He said Honduras has alredy carried out a number of operations to "clean out" border areas and the need for some kind of sandwich operation in conjuction with Salvadorean forces may arise.

He was speaking as the Big Pine 2 exercises, which have involved 5,000 Honduran soldiers and as many as 10,000 US military personnel came to a close after six months. A US Army statement said that the exercises had probably been the longest in American history.

The next round of manoeuvres, to be known as Grenadier 1, begin in May or June and will probably involve Salvadorean Army units. Meanwhile, the Hondran Government intends to move nearly 20,000 Salvadorean refugees to the interior of the country from border camps which, it says, are havens for the guerrillas.

The refugees and international relief workers at the camps say they are being relocated to leave the area clear for incursions into El Salvador.

Senior US military commanders refused to comment on allegations made by an American Senator during a fact-finding tour of Honduras that five years of exercises are being planned.

Senator Jim Sasser, the senior Democratic member of the Senate's military construction appropriations sub-committee, said US military officials had told him that Grenadier would be followed in the autumn by Big Pine 3 and that subsequent rounds of manoeuvres were contemplated for four years thereafter.

US officials would confirm only that about 800 troops will remain in the country, although at times this caretaker presence will peak at around 1,700 men. They also disclosed that reconnaissance aircraft are to be deployed in Honduras later this month.

Mr Sasser said his tour had convinced him that US military installations in Honduras far exceeded the needs of exercises.

He said money was being diverted from exercise and operations funds to build "an extravagant infrastructure for some future military contingency". Clearly, the Reagan Administration did not go before Congress and spell out its full intentions or debate the nature of the US mission in Honduras.

His committee had approved only $21m (£15m) to build two airstrips but six had already been either built or lengthened to accommodate C130 troop transports and three more were planned. Two radar stations and 13 miles of tank traps near Nicaragua had also been built from exercise funds and two ammunition depots and a barracks were on the drawing board.

A US Embassy aide put the cost of Big Pine 2 at between $30m and $40m.

Mr Sasser said that while a budget request for designing a permanent US base had been withdrawn for the time being by the US Defence Department, there was pressure from General Alvarez to create a permanent facility at the regional training centre near Puerto Castilla where Salvadorean and Honduran soldiers receive instruction from US Green Berets.



Mr Sasser: Concerned by American spending.



Four-to-one: Police arresting an agitator in Amritsar during a strike over Sikh autonomy.

India braced for execution today

Delhi (AFP) – Indian security forces have been put on maximum alert amid fears that today's scheduled execution of a Kashmiri militant could set off terrorist actions.

They said trouble could come from separatists in Kashmir and radical Sikhs in neighbouring Punjab.

Maqbool Butt, a leader of the Kashmir Liberation Front whose freedom was demanded by the kidnappers of an Indian diplomat later murdered in Britain, was twice condemned to die.

Bomb damages Turkish Consulate in Cologne

Cologne (AP) – A bomb tore through the Turkish Consulate here early yesterday, causing moderate damage but no injuries in the latest attack on Turks in West Germany.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack, and the Consul-General said not threats had been received beforehand.

The one-and-a-half million Turks living in West Germany seem to bear the brunt of hostility against foreigners by neo-Nazis and other extremists. The country has 4.6 million foreign residents.

On Monday, arsonists set a Turkish textile shop on fire in Frankfurt, causing damage worth 150,000 marks (£38,000) but no injuries. A slogan reading "Auslaender raus" or "Foreigners out" was painted on the building.

The Turkish Consul-General, Mr Ilhan Yigitbasioglu, said similar slogans occasionally appeared on the walls of the Consulate.

Greens lick their wounds over general's defection

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Leaders of the Greens yesterday angrily condemned General Gert Bastian's decision to leave the party and sit as an independent in the Bundestag, and insisted they would not cooperate with him.

Taking stock of the damage the defection has caused the volatile and fissiparous movement, Herr Ott Schily, Speaker of the parliamentary faction, said he did not have the slighest understanding General Bastian's step. Other members of the party rejected his sharp criticisms of party organization and policies, and said no one else supported General Bastian or was ready to follow him in resiging from the party.

Frau Petra Kelly, a close friend and political ally of the general, said however she understood his motives, although she was not willing to leave the Greens herself. She called on her colleagues not to blacken his name, he had lost his political competence, and had suffered from the lack of solidarity shown him by other party members.

General Bastian's decision, seen by his many opponents as inevitable, is the first serious split in the 27-strong parliamentary group, which has been riven in recent months by personality and policy clashes. Last month General Bastian accused his colleagues of dishonesty, intrigue and one-sided anti-Americanism.

Once a member of the Christian Social Union and a senior general in the Bundeswehr until his removal over public disagreements about arms policies, General Bastian was always an incongruous figure among the more radical and casually dressed younger members of the party. His departure is a serious matter however, for if the Greens suffer only two more defections they will cease to constitute a parliamentary faction, with a consequent loss of money and representation on parliamentary committees.

Among the reasons General Bastian gave for his departure was the party's waste of money and resources.

British MP tells of flood havoc

From Stephen Taylor
Harare

An entire village of about 3,000 people disappeared in the floods which hit south Mozambique in the wake of Cyclone Domoina last week, a British MP who has just visited the devastated area said here.

At least 109 people are known to have died in the floods but Mr Edward Rowlands, MP, a former Minister of State in the Foreign Office during the last Labour Government, said the Mozambique Government was deeply worried about the missing villagers. "Relief workers have no idea where they are", Mr Rowlands said. "The village has simply vanished."

The cyclone and floods have compounded the effects of Mozambique's catastrophic drought. At least 30,000 people died in the provinces of Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane last year but according to representatives of voluntary organizations operating in Mozambique in the past three months the toll might be as high as 200,000.

Mr Rowlands said that the floods had washed away maize crops in Maputo and people were desperate for seeds. In addition, the cyclone had stripped cashew trees of the pods which constitute Mozambique's main export.

Another blow to Ian Smith

Harare (AFP) – The Republican Front led by Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister, suffered another blow to its shaky claim to leadership of Zimbabwe's white community yesterday when a twelfth white independent member of Parliament was elected to a former Republican seat.

The party now has just eight of the 20 seats reserved for whites in the 100-member Parliament controlled by the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu), led by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

Mr Peter Field, a sugar-cane farmer, won the south-central Lundi constituency after the Republican Front failed to nominate a candidate.



Mr Smith: Leadership claim shaken.

Australia's new chief rebukes top judges

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The High Court of Australia has handed down a ruling which in effect sustains the right of appeal to the Privy Council despite an agreement between the federal and state governments that such appeals should be abolished.

The decision, handed down on Thurdsay, drew a swift reaction from Senator Gareth Evans, the federal Attorney-General, who said that it was unacceptable. Allowing appeals to continue even in a limited range of cases was "completely inconsistent with the position that the High Court is the final court of appeal for Australia."

The High Court by a 5-2 majority found that Caltex Oil (Australia) had the right to ask the New South Wales Court of Appeal for leave the appeal to the Privy Council against a lower court ruling that it owed XL Petroleum (NSW) a $150,000 (£96,000) in exemplary damages.

Sir Harry Gibbs, the Chief Justice, and Justices Mason, Wilson and Dawson said that the Constitution recognized the right of appeal

However, the majority opinion said: "We should not and cannot speal for the judicial committee committee (Privy Council), but we can say with confidence that it is inconceivable that this court and the judicial committee would proceed concurrently to hear appeals from the one judment of the Supreme Court of a state."

Nakasone's gambit in the Diet

From Richard Hanson
Tokyo

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Prime Minster and leader of the Liberal-Democratic Party, appears this week to have set the stage for a significant strengthening of ties with a leading middle-of-the road opposition party, the Democratic Socialists.

This at least raises the possibility that Mr Nakasone is considering a broader coalition to ensure Government stability after the LDP's election setback last December when it lost its absolute majority in the Diet.

Speculation has been fired by what appears to have been a carefully orchestrated political gambit in the Diet sessioin that began this week. Mr Nakasone ostentatiously welcomed as bold and epochal a proposal by the chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, Mr Ryosaku Sasaki, to create a consultative forum with opposition parties

The DSP ranks number two among parties and holds views nearly identical to the Liberal Democrats on a number of key issues. Nonetheless the possibility that the DSP could split from the loose opposition party front and join the Government is intriguing politicians here.

To bolster its control, the LDP has already been forced to invite the smallest opposition group, the New Liberal Club, into the Government.

THE ARTS

Radio

Shakedown times

Six weeks old next Tuesday, the new arrangement of the late Radio 4 evening has still to achieve what changes to broadcasting schedues quite often do with astonishing rapidity: *assume the air of something that* has been there forever. This may in part have been because of that early January start when a kind of national hibernation sets in: at all events, the two hours from 9.30 to 11.30 pm still sound as if they are trying *to shake down.*

Like the half hour space that used to be from 10.30 to 11, the little 15-minute gap at 9.30 is being used predominantly for repeats: *Kenneth Williams – Ad Lib, Gemmell's Gardens, High Street Africa Revisited.* All good stuff, but there is an opportunity here to develop new talks series or small features which I hope will not be lost. One much-publicized idea of the rescheduling was to give *Kaleidoscope* a slightly later start, thus enabling it to return to its original practice of reviewing first nights on the night. I suppose to get an off-the-top-of-the-head reaction as opposed to something more considered really is a bonus – or is it?

In the first few weeks, however, your actual first nights were, for seasonal reasons apparently, pretty thin on the ground. Since then the rate has improved somewhat, although I suspect that in fact the slightly later start is not quite late enough to do the job thoroughly. Where the programme *would really like to be is where* (if my memory serves) it was when it began: 10.30. But there is little hope of that. In other respects, it really sounds much like its old confident, unrescheduled self.

So to *Book at Bedtime* where *the difference is that bedtime is* now defined as 10.15 instead of 11. If you were in the habit of listening confortably in bed, either you crawl in earlier and risk insomnia, or listen before you go to bed and lose the last half of the ITV news – both possible *irritants. However,* if the experience of those responsible for the hour that follows is anything to go by, traditional Radio 4 audience irritation with changes has on this occasion been markedly less than usual: complaints to *The World Tonight* about its new placing and format virtually dried up by the end of the second week. Perhaps it is the hibernation syndrome again.

It is here in the hour between 10.30 and 11.30 that most of the shaking down is still to come. I am not referring so much to the most obvious change – the disappearance of a full-scale news bulletin at the front of the programme. This, according to its new editor Blair Thomson, has been changed in response to a very clear audience expectation that news bulletins on Radio 4 are things that happen on the hour. So if you start at the half-hour you must do something different, which in this case is to take the major stories and explore them as they come up. In any case the method is in keeping with *The World Tonight's* new intention not just to deal in news and reactions, but to use the extra time to develop its tradition of analysis and the examining of implications.

So far, so reasonably good, but come 11 a note of dissatisfaction creeps in. This is when *The World Tonight* seems to break off, and for the next 15 minutes The Financial World Tonight takes *up the microphone.* This introduces a distinct, and to my ears somewhat indigestible, change of subject matter and style. Then at 11.15 (except on Fridays, when Week Ending begins) *The World Tonight* proper comes back.

Should they lighten the tone. The risk is that this section will become divorced from the rest – a sort of comic's corner. Should they, as in my hearing they have done more often, attempt to reestablish the tone of the first half-hour? That is *not quite right either: after The Financial World Tonight's* brisk approach, it sounds unduly weighty for the time of night. Taken with everything that has gone before, it helps to create a sequence of broadcasting that is too long, too dense and too *heavy for the very late evening.* Instead of a book at bedtime we now have a bit of a sandbag.

One other factor does not really help: at 11 pm Radio 4 divides up, and the remainder of *The World Tonight* is consigned to the long and medium waves, and falls victim to a very horrid loss of sound quality. No fault of the programme, but it tends to sour the listener's attitude. So later, having groped his way to bed, he lies awake composing letters to the Home Office, demanding explanations about why they cannot clear the upper reaches of the VHF more rapidly and give each of the net works its own uninterrupted frequency.

David Wade

Theatre

An oratorio for the people

The Hired Man
Nuffield, Southampton

If Britain were a people's republic, Melvyn Bragg and Howard Goodall's musical is just the kind of work that would receive the blessings of the Ministry of Culture. It is a heroic pageant of working-class life from the turn of the century to the eve of the depression, celebrating worker's power to withstand everything the century can throw at *him* and *still* sign on for the next job.

Mr Bragg's novel took its outline from the life of his grandfather: but there is small trace of any personal element in the stage adaptation. The early scenes do build up the picture of a particular northern community, with its outdoor sports and pub life, and its custom of the hiring ring where masters and workers strike their bargains. We seem set for a story of three brothers. But as soon as the march of history gets under way, two of them fade out, leaving John and his family to do solitary battle with the twentieth century. And in a piece saluting the dignity of labour it is odd to find a workaholic hero whose inability to relax almost wrecks his marriage.

However, such personal questions are soon eclipsed by events. John and Emily abandon the land for the colliery. The disaster of the war and the death of their son is followed by a mining disaster and the death of Emily. Mr Bragg chucks everything in, and all individual colour drains out of his people, leaving only melodramatically manipulated emotion: such as the scene in which the couple renew their love, after which the pit roof is bound to cave in.

This is to reckon without the transfiguring effect of Mr Goodall's music which may not rescue the dialogue from banality, but does confer an epic nobility on the group scenes and justifies Mr Bragg's sacrifice of private to public feelings.

Scored for two pianos, trumpet and harp, this is music in the English folk tradition: not modal, but effortlessly melodic and redolent of the countryside, combining even the brassiest march tune with a sense of regret and loss. *The lyrics add* to this effect with metres that allow separate motifs to flower into varying phrase lengths always, at some point, giving the voices of David Gilmore's cast the chance to soar. The result may not be precisely a musical, but it is a magnificent peoples' oratorio.

As the central couple, Phyllis Logan (who much impressed in *Another Time, Another Place)* and David Tysall set the style with honest, low-keyed performances that take off into high emotion with the music. Roger Glossop's stage somehow accommodates a pit shaft in addition to domestic interiors and a main area doubling as farmland and no man's land, on which the company repeatedly gather to lift their voices in joy and defiance.



Phyllis Logan, David Tysall: from low key to high emotion

Irving Wardle

Operetta

The Gondoliers
Sadlers Wells

After a *Martha* that traduced the very name of Friedrich von Flotow the New Sadler's Wells Opera has come up with a *Gondoliers* to end its season that should sit happily in the repertory for a number of years, quite apart from a visit to Opera North, its next stop. For that much credit *must go to Christopher* Renshaw. Mr Renshaw's staging is inventive without being exaggerated, fresh without being ingenuous and has a sure feeling both for the moments requiring over-statement and those that benefit from understatement. And above all he knows how to get the best out of his collaborators.

Tim Goodchild provides two nicely contrasted sets. Venice arises from the waves in Act I with plenty of channels for the arrival of sundry gondolas: the waters looked a little choppy on the first night, but doubtless someone will pour some oil on them, or on the pulleys beneath the boats.

The Court of Baratana in the second act indeed has a sunny, Spanish shore where Marco and Giuseppe disport themselves in Victorian bathing costumes. It is all a little *reminiscent of the Nauplion* Jérôme Savary created for *La Belle Hélène* in Paris a year ago. But no matter: some beaches must stay in the public domain. Michael Corder, usually encountered in Rosebery Avenue with the Sadler's Wells Ballet, has provided some of the sharpest choreography I have seen on the operetta stage for some time. He has his singers counting away (silently) like professional dancers.

The cast, despite one or two obvious weaknesses, is a judicious mixture of the experienced and the up-and-coming. Donald Adams, who took over from Darrell Fancourt in the D'Oyly Carte long *ago, is still in imposing* voice as Don Alhambra, swishing his Grand Inquisitorial whip and relishing every slice of stage business. John Fryatt's Duke of Plaza-Toro is equally assured and equipped with a Harold Wilson accent. As Tessa (Janine Roebuck) does a Thatcher-imitation, this *Gondoliers* is in some ways cast at the highest ministerial level.

Kim Begley and Richard Jackson are well-contrasted as Marco and Giuseppe, despite the fact that Mr Begley is a *tenor* who looks like a baritone and Mr Jackson a baritone who looks like a tenor. A complicated situation, as Gilbert would have said, but both have youth, charm and a clean vocal line. Laureen Livingstone (Gianetta) sounded a little below par on opening night and for once was outpointed by the Casilda, played by Sandra Dugdale as a quasi-intellectual from Harold Wilson-land.

Wyn Davies began unobtrusively with the orchestra, aware probably that *Gondoliers* has its weaknesses, especially the music for Luiz and Casilda. Gilbert provided some of his wittiest lyrics but one of his worst plots, with its *Trovatore* parody dénouement. Why, he even pinched the name of Inez, the foster-mother who tells all, from Verdi's opera.

John Higgins

Television

Musical tragedy

Miss Onyeka Onwenu is a Nigerian television journalist who combines that craft with singing. In last night's World About Us special, A Squandering of Riches, on BBC 2, she twice joined these talents which was a pity – rather as if Fred Emery were to close **Panorama** with an emotive pop number.

When we last saw Miss Onwenu she was belting out a gymnastic number, magnificently swathed in what appeared to be yellow chiffon. The words were denied us and though the performance was impressive, it sat oddly at the end of this sad story of how what one witness called "moral decadence" had brought the country to its knees.

The film was made a month before the December coup and had to be brought up to date by Miss Onwenu's narration. Nigeria became independent 24 years ago. It was a country with a promising agricultural base, an educated elite, rich in minerals, and, it was discovered, oil. It sustained a bloody civil war but not affluence.

Nigeria's oil drew people from the land. Making money became a much smarter thing to do than making things. Industrialists went in for private jets – one apparently maintained two at a cost of £1m a year – and bribery on a scale that raised eyebrows internationally.

From having the possibility of self-sufficiency in food and enviable prospects compared with its other African states, Nigeria hit hard times. Food is imported and scarce, inflation rife. Again, the military govern.

Miss Onwenu hoped it would work. There had been another change, she said: Nigerians were now blaming their leaders instead of colonial powers

Dennis Hackett

WEEKEND CHOICE

It is not necessary to have read Rosamond Lehmann's novel **The Weather in the Streets** fully to appreciate the quiet power that is generated in Julian *Mitchell's television adaptation* (tomorrow, BBC 2, 9.30 pm), or sensibly to appreciate the point that Miss Lehmann was trying to make. "It was fun, wasn't it darling?", says the adulterous husband to the mistress whose bright flame he has snuffed out *with only a token show of* regret. This is the archetypal rose-and-thorn love story. The important plusses are, of course, the relevance of the period (England between the two world wars) and the social divide between the lovers. A combination of restrained direction (by Gavin Millar) and what must have been a generous production budget has helped to ensure that Rosamond Lehmann visualized is not a betrayal of Rosamond Lehmann textualized.

A Touch of Culture (tonight, Channel 4, 8.30) begins as a conventional PR job for the Royal Shakespeare Company, making its annual sortie to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Then, it raises its sights and stiffens its sinews and creates a no-nonsense context into which it fits not only the glamorous RSC but the North-east's own home-grown theatrical enterprises that derive their strength from the community.

The air is thick with hatchets most of them heading straight for Walt Disney, in Russell Davies's documentary about the pioneer cartoon maker, ***Waltchmerz, Or What You Will*** (tomorrow, Radio 3, 5.10 pm). For some of the rest of the time Disney is turning a dagger on himself, though the programme suggests that he does not have the wit to realize what he is doing.

Peter Davalle

SPORTING DIARY

Spelling it out

Like everyone else, the Liverpool and Zimbabwe goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar was surprised by his team's 2–2 draw with third division side Walsall in the Milk Cup on Tuesday. "If there was a result like this in Africa", he said, "Walsall's witch doctor would be under very close investigation."

England's rugby drubbing in Edinburgh last Saturday was also the subject of rueful humour. After the match the chairman of selectors, coach and captain found themselves standing with their backs to a brick wall in the dressing-room. Coach Dick Greenwood said: "Well, hand me a blindfold." Captain Peter Wheeler added: "Am I allowed a last wish?"

At least England have won the Five Nations Stiff Upper Lip Competition.

● Jimmy Greaves is making a comeback to first division football. He and his television colleague Ian St John will fight out a penalty competition before the televised Luton v Manchester United game tomorrow. "They both want the pleasure of telling the other man he's past it", said a Luton spokesman. So it should be a draw.

Give and take

The Welsh may have stolen the honours at the Five Nations tournament match in Dublin last weekend but *it did* not go *all* their own way. Someone sneaked into their changing room and stole £700 from their pockets. Still, it makes a change from people sneaking into rugby changing rooms to *give* money to players.

BARRY FANTONI



'How would you like me to be your new chairman?'

Ski high

Lapsed Norwegian Audun Endestad is competing for the United States ski team now, after whizzing dramatically to and fro across the Atlantic to become a US citizen in time. He flew from Yugoslavia to Salt Lake City last weekend, needing both Ronald Reagan's signature and a special act of Congress. Now he is back in Yugoslavia, and set to compete in the 50 kilometre Nordic skiing event.

Boycott out

Abandon hope if you want to buy a picture of the greatest cricketer in the world. True, the original paintings for the best-selling book *The Lord's Taverners Fifty Greatest Cricketers* are on sale at the Café Royal from Monday until Friday, but the portrait of Geoff Boycott is not available. Someone – not, I fancy, Ray Illingworth – has already snapped it up for a mere £980. The picture of a man with an equally remarkable batting technique, Bishen Bedi, has somehow gone missing.

Clay models

All right, England is not too hot at cricket and rugby just now. But the British are knocking spots off every are one else when it comes to clay pigeon shooting. Did you know we have no fewer than seven world champions? And that in 1983 we won 48 medals in international events, 27 of them gold?

● A grandmother aged 66 has won a weightlifting competition. Minnie Roberts, 4ft 11in and 8st 6lb, won the Michigan State championship for women over 40, lifting almost twice her bodyweight.

Fighting talk

Don't write off welterweight boxer Stewart Darden, who is convalescing from a head injury. Says promoter Wes Wambold: "He's completely normal in every respect except that he can't walk yet, because he can't move his right foot. Mentally he has a few problems. He can recognize everybody and talk to them. He just gets confused at times."

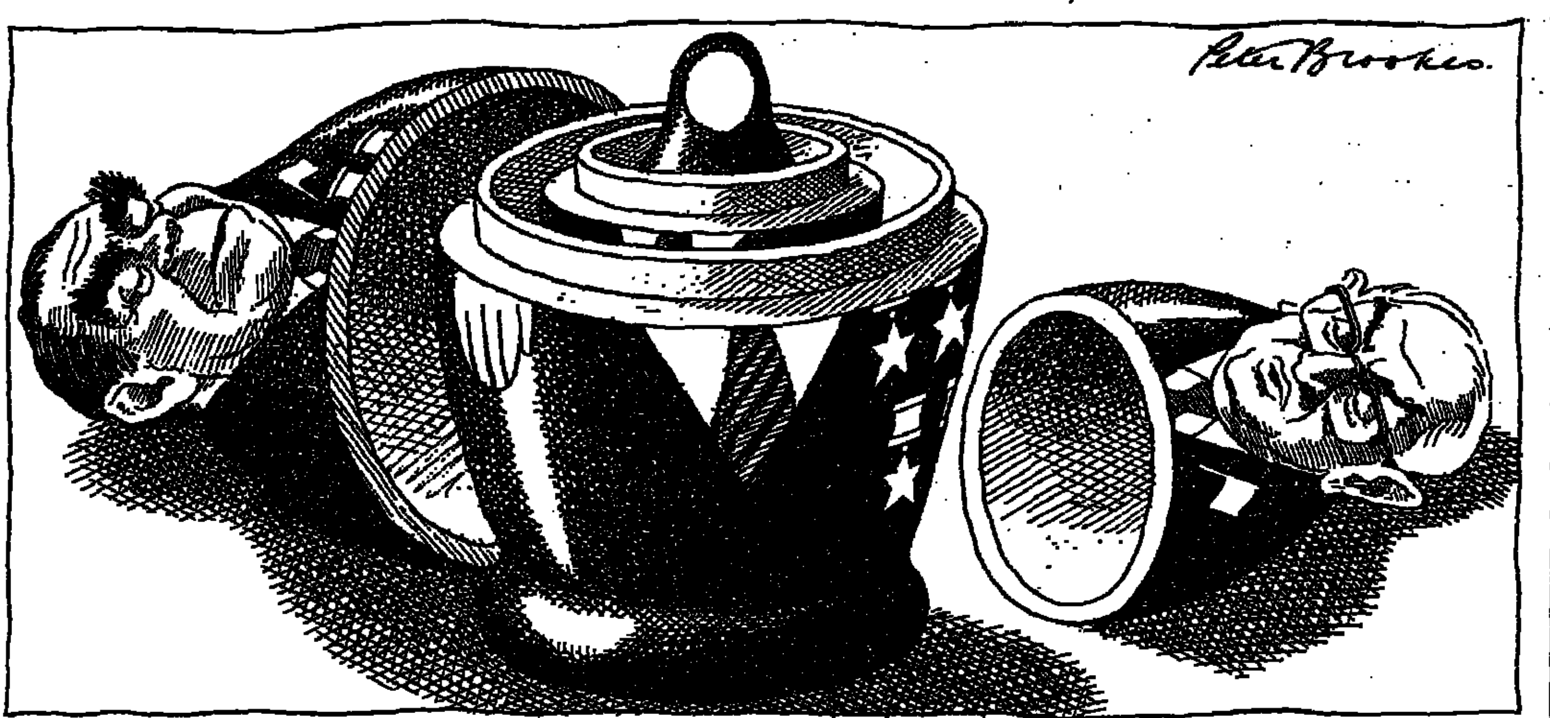
Making a mint?

Stan Flashman, the Wembley tout renowned for his imaginatively priced Cup Final tickets, has sponsored the printing of lottery tickets for the Alliance Premier League side, Barnet. He lives near Underhill, Barnet's muddy slope of a ground, and has paid all the printing costs for the tickets. The back of each carries the message: "Stan Flashman for all theatre and sporting tickets."

If you consider that to be barefaced exhibitionism, here's a barebreasted variety: two women boxers fought topless for a £150 purse (if not a handbag) in Liverpool last week. One of the contestants, billed as Jumping Jane, said: "We were both nervous the first time out, but in the excitement you soon forget you are out there, naked to the waist, in front of hundreds of leering men."

Simon Barnes

What did Andropov achieve?



As the Kremlin power struggle intensifies, Richard Owen asks if even the tentative reforms of the past 15 months can survive

It began 15 months ago with a crackle of expectancy, with troops moving on to the streets in an almost coup-like atmosphere, and ended yesterday in a welter of rumour, deception and Byzantine intrigue. The Andropov era, for the average Russian, had by the end become symbolized by the nightly television news programme in which the leader appeared only as a two-dimensional portrait waved on the end of a stick at Supreme Soviet election meetings.

"We need a strong and visible leader" one Muscovite said this week (not too loudly) as indications grew that Andropov might have died. "This is an embarrassment." Since August last year, when Andropov last appeared in public, officials had kept up a barrage of disinformation (some of it absurd) designed to assure both foreigners and the man on the Moscow street that Andropov was not dying but "*temporarily indisposed*".

For some Russians the tactic worked. Russians are not used to questioning statements about Kremlin leaders, and the eery creation of an invisible Andropov persona through statements to *Pravda* and constant invocations of his name almost dignified the vacuum. This week, even after Marshal Ustinov, the Defence Minister, had mysteriously cancelled a visit to India, there was a sense not so much of crisis as of uncanny calm. Russians had lived without a visible leader for six months: why not another six months?

When I saw him at Kremlin meetings or on Red Square he always seemed a remote figure, faintly smiling, staring at the world through his spectacles as he walked, slowly and stooping, at the head of the Politburo. When he disappeared, his strangely sinister presence still seemed to hang over Moscow and dominated all conversation. It worked partly because the Politburo needed to maintain a facade while it manoeuvred – but also because the stricken Andropov continued to wield power behind the scenes.

His had always been a faceless leadership: no giant portraits of Andropov went up on Moscow streets to replace those of the vainglorious Brezhnev. There are some large red posters by the roadside assuring Muscovites of Andropov's devotion to raising living standards, but they are relatively modest, and may now disappear. The Andropov family was not involved in the kind of high-level corruption which permeated Brezhnev's relatives, and his son Igor was seen as a career diplomat rather than the recipient of undeserved paternal patronage.

Nobody even knew (despite incessant inquiries by foreign journalists and diplomats) whether Mrs Andropov was still alive, or indeed if Andropov had married twice, as many believe.

There were few jokes either – not only because it is foolhardy to joke about a man who headed the KGB for 15 years (and still held the files), but also because this austere, secretive politician inspired fear and respect rather than derision, affectionate or otherwise. Some jokes went the rounds: the study of Soviet man at Moscow University had been altered to "Andropology": a cheap vodka put on the market last year was dubbed "Andropovka". That was all.

Unless Andropov is now succeeded by a leader fiercely loyal to his ideas and programme, the "Andropov era" may dwindle into little more than a transitional or caretaker period. When he moved into the party leadership with couplike precision in November 1982, Andropov rolled up his sleeves and announced a crash programme of efficiency and discipline.

Dulled by the drift of the Brezhnev years, *Pravda* readers took note when Andropov told the Central Committee: "There are many tasks in our national economy which need prompt solutions". He added modestly: "I, of course, do not have ready made recipes", but it was clear that here at last was someone with vigour and clear vision.

Overhaul of the police system was accompanied by a Stalinist campaign against dissidents and unorthodoxy in the arts. Letters appeared in the press praising the KGB as knights in shining armour, stern guardians of the communist flame. Andropov rejected the idea that Soviet Marxism needed major revision but accepted the need for change after two decades of stagnation. He found himself using the police and the KGB to push through a limited reform programme in industry, agriculture and education against criticism not only from old guard bureaucrats who did not want their sinecures shaken by change, but also those on the liberal wing of the party who favoured more radical solutions.

Even as he lay dying, Andropov used his loyal lieutenants to purge the incompetent and inefficient, yet never once acknowledged that the Soviet structure itself was outdated, a relic of the Stalinism under which Andropov and his generation made their early careers.

But as the Politburo moves to resolve the leadership crisis which has been simmering since the autumn, many in the party are wondering how much of the Andropov programme will survive, and whether it is worth their while implementing it.

There are no signs so far that any of the men Andropov managed to move into key positions in his last six months – Mikhail Gorbachov, Grigorii Romanov, Vitaly Vorotnikov, Nikolai Ryzhkov – could do much more than try to protect the Andropov legacy from being whittled away. They face the powerful force of an entrenched bureaucracy and vested interests which even a ruthless secret policeman of Andropov's stature and intellect could not shift. If the Politburo plays it safe, power will pass to the generation in its seventies, with Konstantin Chernenko, Marshal Ustinov and Andrei Gromyko running the system.

There is enough of an "Andropov programme" in force to enable "Young Turks" like Mr Gorbachov and Mr Romanov to take reforms further if they gain power now. The December plenum – which Andropov did not even attend – was dominated by his disembodied voice. His unseen hand moved the pieces on the Kremlin chessboard. The internal party elections which ended last month removed a third of all regional party secretaries, the largest turnover since the Khrushchev era. As he lay dying, Andropov repeatedly ordered *Pravda* to attack party incompetence, using as an example the republic of Moldavia, with which Brezhnev – and the Brezhnevites – had strong ties.

But although there were signs that he took a relatively benign view of his predecessors, Andropov may not have been able – on present evidence – to order the succession to ensure that the "Andropov era" does not follow the Khrushchev and Brezhnev eras into the memory hole of official Soviet wisdom. Given that Andropov's relatively brief tenure saw failure rather than progress in foreign affairs – in Afghanistan, in relations with China, above all on arms control and relations with the United States – there may be precious little left for Soviet historians – unless Andropov's shadow proves so powerful that it commands and instructs the next leader from beyond the grave.

David Owen

Why Moscow holds the key to Lebanon

The multi-national force in Beirut was a brave response to an appalling political and humanitarian debacle. We are in danger of forgetting that US, French and Italian troops went in originally to oversee the evacuation of the PLO at Yassir Arafat's request, only to be called back in the wake of the Sabra and Chatila refugee camp massacre. We in Britain came in reluctantly with a token force.

Some say that the peace-keeping operation was doomed from the start, fatally flawed by the inability of the US administration to provide impartial diplomacy to match the impartiality of the peace-keeping force. But such an outcome was not inevitable. The mistake of the Europeans was to allow the United States to control all the diplomatic and political negotiations with the Lebanese government and Israel, and not to threaten to withdraw their MNF contingents if the US continued to shut out the Syrians.

Unlike in the past, when Europe had criticized US diplomacy in the Middle East from the sidelines, on this occasion we were sharing responsibilities and casualties. The French were robust and independent throughout and were sustained by politicians of all persuasions. Britain would have been better advised to have put in promptly a rather larger force. In fairness to the British Government, the ability to operate with a high military and diplomatic profile in the Middle East was gravely impaired by the lack of any all-party consensus in the House of Commons.

A combination of Enoch Powell's nationalism and Denis Healey's opportunism with the latent neutralism and active anti-Americanism of most of Neil Kinnock's Labour Party meant that there was the constant fear of a major parliamentary row over any British casualties. It was not surprising, therefore, that the Government, with John Biffen, Leader of the House, openly agnostic, often appeared hesitant and uncertain about the extent of their commitment. A transfer of responsibility from the multinational force to the United Nations was always desirable, but the key to such a transfer is neither in Damascus, nor in Jerusalem, but in Moscow and in Washington.

The reality is that ever since November 1977, when President Sadat visited Jerusalem, the Soviet Union has been deliberately shut out of the peace process in the Middle East. The October 1, 1977 joint US-USSR communique stating the views of the Geneva co-chairmen on the objectives of a reconvened conference was abandoned. The partial peace settlement between Egypt and Israel will nevertheless prove to be a critical building block for an eventual peace settlement.

Yet Syria has gained immeasurably in relative strength in the region over the last few years. In part, this is because Iraq is pinned down in its war with Iran. In part because the United States did not understand that it was fatally weakening President Gemayel with the Muslim majority in Lebanon by allowing Israel to extract too high a price in the May agreement and then reaffirming its security pact with Israel. But mainly Syria's influence grew as the US deliberately ignored the Soviet Union over the Middle East.

What the Soviet Union needs is some sign from the Americans that they are prepared to bring it back into the peace process in the Middle East. This is particularly needed at this critical moment when the leadership is changing after President Andropov's death. The atmosphere would certainly be greatly improved if President Reagan attended Andropov's funeral in Moscow and talked to the new leaders about the Middle East.

It would probably be unwise even to attempt a Geneva Conference until 1985, but a decision to agree this in principle would set all the different negotiations in Beirut, Damascus, Amman and Jerusalem in a more hopeful framework. It should, above all, be sufficient for the Soviets to lift their implicit veto on an immediate reintroduction of a UN peace-keeping force into Beirut. We need urgently a decision from the Security Council to authorize such a peace-keeping initiative. The French have shown courage and tenacity over the last few months in the Lebanon. The experience of the French, British and Italian troops could be of tremendous value in providing the nucleus for quickly installing a UN force. There would obviously need to be representation from nations like Romania, Yugoslavia and the Scandinavian countries to provide political balance. The United States, in the almost certain absence of any Soviet contribution, would have to withdraw its forces completely. Even Israel, which has always been the most pungent critic of UN peace keeping, ought now to see that its own interests are not served by the present chaos.

The hard truth which President Reagan hopefully is beginning to realize is that there is no escape from serious dialogue and negotiation with the Soviet Union. In any area, whether Europe, the Far East or the Middle East where the super-powers are in conflict, neither can afford the luxury of totally ignoring the viewpoint of the other.

The author is leader of the Social Democratic Party.

Bernard Levin is enraged – and exalted – at the Biko inquest re-enactment

Verdict: death that others might be free

At the Riverside Studios, in Hammersmith, there is to be seen, until March 4, an extraordinary – and at once I face an almost insuperable difficulty of definition. For what exactly is *The Biko Inquest*? It is performed; by actors; on a stage; at a theatre; therefore it is a play. But how *can* it be a play? For every word we hear was spoken by counsel, magistrate or witnesses in the second half of November 1977, in Pretoria, in the course of the inquiry into the death of Steve Biko, a black South African campaigner for the rights of black people in South Africa, who was tortured and murdered by two officers of the South African security police. The recitation of verbatim excerpts from legal proceedings can hardly constitute a play, even if, as in this case, the excerpts occupy only some two hours whereas the original went on for a fortnight. But if it *isn't* a play, how then does it contrive to be more dramatic, in both the theatrical and wider senses of the word, than anything I have seen on any stage for many a season? And if the amazing cast – it includes Albert Finney, Nigel Davenport, John Standing, Michael Gough, Mark Dignam, Richard Johnson and Edward Hardwicke – are not acting, what *are* they doing?

Confusion now hath made his masterpiece; and I must be more confused than most, because one of the real people represented on the stage is a dearly beloved friend of mine, and although Finney, who plays him – speaks his words – does not attempt to look like him, sound like him or walk like him, so hypnotic was the effect of what I was hearing that I found myself, teetering on the edge of schizophrenia, thinking "Why is Sydney Kentridge disguised as Albert Finney?"

It would, of course, be possible to write a play *based on* the Biko case (indeed, at least one novel has been written about it). The playwright, though, would feel the need to "open out" the story, so that the audience would see not only Biko's suffering, but his family background and political activities, together with a scene or two involving the Minister of Justice (he supervised the organization of the "cover-up", and did so with such stupendous incompetence that even Vorster was obliged to sack him), who said of Biko's death, to appreciative laughter from the National Party Congress he was addressing, "It leaves me cold". At the end of such a play, provided the author was good at his trade, we would have a heightened understanding of the evil that had been done, a greater awareness of the abominations of apartheid and – if the author was *very* good at his trade – an experience of the catharsis that comes from true tragedy, and a feeling of identification with the victim.

Yet all this is obtained at Riverside with nothing but the bare words that were spoken in that Pretoria courtroom. Those, like the security police, the government's lawyer and the government's doctors, who there spoke words of baseness and mendacity, are here seen and heard as base and mendacious; those, like Kentridge (he appeared for the Biko family), who there spoke words of nobility and truth, are here seen and heard displaying those qualities. When we hear the shame at what was done to Biko expressed by those who condemn it, while those who did it or defend it display not shame but pride and contempt, we hear what the public in the courtroom heard; when the magistrate brings in the required verdict in the teeth of the evidence, the sickness it induces is what we would have felt had we been present.





Albert Finney as Sydney Kentridge: evil indicted in words of fire. Right, Steve Biko: in life, torture; in death official lies and contempt

Ars est celare artem: but this, as I had to remind myself a hundred times in the course of the evening, is *not* art, it is life. Of course, Jon Blair and Norman Fenton, who have edited the transcripts into this form, have used artistic skill in their selection of passages for inclusion, and they have sometimes broken up the testimony of a witness into separate "scenes", though in the court, the whole of his evidence would have been given at one go. No doubt this will give the defenders of South Africa (at least Professor Manning is at last dead, which will spare us a column or two of repulsive cant) the opportunity to claim that *The Biko Inquest* is fiction. The answer to that is for visitors to Riverside to hang on tight to the most dominant and appalling truth of the experience: every word they hear was heard at the inquest. When Colonel Goosen of the security police stated unambiguously in the courtroom, and repeated firmly when pressed, that no telex message was sent by him on a particular occasion crucial to the case, he lied on oath, and when Kentridge produced a copy of the telex the existence of which he had denied, he was conclusively shown to have lied on oath. He was not in the least worried, knowing that he would be protected by his political superiors from the natural consequences of perjury. At Riverside we see the lie told and nailed, and we see the insouciance of the liar; pray how much art would be required to improve on that, let alone on the no less faithfully transcribed slip of the tongue by the same witness, who, when intending to refer to "my interrogating officers", spoke instead of "my assaulting officers"?

And so it is from start to finish. Take the acting, for instance. John Standing has played a good many odious creatures, and he does it with great skill and relish; here, as counsel for the government, he plays one who is plainly more loathsome than most. Yet there is no false emphasis, indeed there is no emphasis at all; Mr Standing just speaks the lines in a voice that is almost without colour or variation of tone, and the strangling hand that grips our unconsciousness squeezes from it the truth that we are listening to something that is in effect a gramophone record.

The same is true, even more strongly, of Albert Finney as Sydney Kentridge, a portrayal that hardly ever touches anger, let alone stridency or melodrama; even the forensic use of sarcasm, in which Kentridge is a master when defending South Africa's victims or cross-examining the victimizers, is touched so lightly as to be almost indiscernible. And yet Kentridge, the latest in that great line of lawyers, from Cicero to Clarence Darrow, who have served truth against its enemies, comes to full life upon the stage, indicting wickedness in words of fire that burn the more savagely for being so carefully doused. (The hypnotic force of the "play" is so remarkable that when, on the opening night, with the lawyer among the audience, the magistrate said "Very well, carry on, Mr Kentridge", Sydney found himself rising to his feet.)

For many years now, whenever I have wanted to be sure that I am still alive, I have tested my psychological reactions as a doctor tests physical ones by tapping the patient just below the knee; if the leg involuntarily jerks, its owner need not lose hope, and if, when I contemplate the things that are done to the good, the honest, the brave and the helpless in the Soviet Union or South Africa, I feel rushing through me the familiar rage against mankind's capacity for evil, I know that I am still not drowned in despair. It is a measure of the force and effect of *The Biko Inquest* that although I did of course feel that rage again and again in the course of it, the rage was by the end transmuted into a different feeling altogether, the feeling that comes through true artistic catharsis. Just as we do not leave *King Lear* destroyed by the horrors we have seen, so we do not leave Riverside brought low by the horrors we have heard about. Instead, there is a feeling of something strangely like exaltation, which comes - which can only come - from the realization that, however many more Bikos have to die, in the end we shall see in South Africa one more proof that a house builded upon sand cannot stand, which is also what I realize when I think of Yuri Orlov, who yesterday completed seven years in a Soviet concentration camp for daring to ask whether his country was keeping its side of the bargain enshrined in the Helsinki Accords. The art in this play must indeed be powerful thus to invite comparison with Shakespeare. And yet it is not art and not a play; how much more powerful, then, must be the stark reality which has the same effect.

Woodrow Wyatt

Stand and deliver, Mr King

If the Government does not insist on secret postal ballots for union voting, the claims that it is going soft in its second term will be strongly reinforced. Nearly all union leaders are against postal ballots: most would not have been elected had they been in operation. The general council of the TUC is mainly composed of leaders who do not hold their office on the genuine universal suffrage of their members.

These are the union leaders the Department of Employment officials deal with. Anxious not to offend them, the officials have so far persuaded their ministers that postal ballots for the election of union officials are not necessary.

In the Committee stage of the Trade Union Bill on January 17, John Gummer, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, claimed that before the 1961 court case the Electricians' Union had a postal ballot, implying that postal ballots are no protection against malpractice. Branch officials received batches of ballot papers from head office which they were supposed to post to their branch members, who were supposed to post them back to the branch, where they were supposed to be counted; the numbers of votes put down to each candidate was then sent to head office.

In practice, branch officials who supported communist rule in the Electricians' Union omitted to send ballot papers to those likely to vote the wrong way. When the ballot papers were returned, branch officials adjusted the results by adding surplus ballot papers, of which there was a limitless supply, to the candidates of their choice.

Ministers are not ruling out postal ballots. They are saying that workplace ballots would do as well, and cite the pithead ballots of the miners in support. The recent election for the general secretaryship of the NUM has raised strong doubts about the way it was conducted, partly because of the drop to 147,011 voting against 195,494 in March 1983.

The Electoral Reform Society counts the used, but not the unused, ballot papers returned to it. It has no control over how many ballot papers go to each voting point, how they are distributed, no supervision of the voting, nor of whether surplus ballot papers are improperly filled in. Ballot papers are straightened out by local officials and sent to the Electoral Reform Society, making subtraction and addition easy. The Department of Employment's ideal workplace ballot, the pithead ballot, is open and subject to massive irregularities.

If unamended, the Trade Union Bill will not even require the election of scrutineers at workplaces.

Before it had postal ballots, it was habitual in the Engineers' Union for groups of like-minded officials to forge signatures of members who had not come to vote and to fill in their ballot papers in the preferred way. Signatures were never, or rarely, checked against those at head office.

The Government says it does not want to force too many changes on the unions. Yet even its broken-backed Bill would make unions like the NUM give each member a vote for each executive councillor, which at present they do not have. The extreme left tilt of the NUM executive arises through indirect voting. Since that is to be changed, it is not much more of a change to provide for full postal ballot voting supervised by an independent body, ideally a quango.

The unions should be obliged to send lists of members and their addresses to the quango, which would dispatch and receive back the ballot papers for counting. Complaints of omission could be referred to the quango, which would take them up with the unions. Additionally, the quango should be empowered to make spot checks comparing the lists supplied by the union with its own records. The knowledge that such checks could and would be made would greatly reduce the temptation to fraud. The system would not be perfect, particularly to begin with, because many unions do not know the names and addresses of many of their members. The new procedure would encourage them to find out.

It is true that postal ballots do not achieve the same rate of voting as pithead ballots where the workers, all members of the same union in large units, pass the ballot places to and from work. But postal ballots, centrally controlled, have the supreme advantage of being nearly impossible to fiddle. Where they have replaced branch voting and other systems the rate of voting has multiplied several times over voting by previous methods. It is extraordinary that the Department of Employment has shown not the slightest interest in examining the procedures for postal ballots in the Electricians' Union, in which about 30 per cent of the members usually vote. More vote when the contest is expected to be close or is of particular importance.

As it is, the Government proposes to deny ordinary members even the right to choose by postal ballot whether they would like to have postal ballots for executive elections. No wonder the enemies of genuine democracy are laughing and its friends are grieving. The TUC general council is amazed and delighted at the Government's cowardice.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MISSION TO MOSCOW

The Soviet President is dead. The announcement of Mr Andropov's death, after a long illness, has finally given public recognition to a fact that has been evident to anybody concerned with the workings of the Soviet system: its paralysis of leadership. The effect of Mr Andropov's illness had not yet been to reduce the Soviet Union to quite such a directionless state at the top as one would find in a true autocracy, because the Soviet system is not like that. It is a self-perpetuating, secretive, and very practised paramilitary bureaucracy, rather than a personal fiefdom. It is less about men than about measures – measures of control, measures of survival, military measures. But for all that even as ruthless a bureaucracy as the Soviet system needs some ultimate leadership to prevent it falling eventually into an inertia where time-serving and factionalism gradually destroy its momentum and sense of direction.

Soviet diplomacy, particularly in the arms negotiations, has shown some of those symptoms, and a lack of that quality of imagination which would have enabled it to adjust to the failure of its efforts to prevent the deployment of Western missiles in Europe. Had Mr Andropov been able to give some personal guidance at the top we would perhaps have sensed some continuing flexibility in Soviet diplomacy, rather than the mediocrity and immobilism which actually transpired at Geneva. The walk-out in the arms negotiations was as clear a demonstration as was needed that Soviet diplomats had no instructions and could not therefore continue to negotiate. The reason they had no instructions is now clear; it was pretty clear then, in spite of the continuing attempts by Soviet authorities to delude others about the real situation in their country, in the hope that they might succeed in deluding many of their compatriots as well.

The question of the Andropov succession arises, but it should not preoccupy us yet. The arrival of a new leader certainly has an atmospheric effect. Yet it should not be allowed to mask the underlying and unchanging aspect of the Soviet system. It will only adapt slowly and at the margin, to a new personality; and that personality will anyway be born of the system rather than an arrival from outside it. Thus, like Mr Andropov, his successor will tinker with the marginal and superficial imperfections of Soviet rule, without risking any radical critique. Khrushchev's fate, as the only post-war leader to challenge their common Stalinist antecedents, would be sufficient warning for that trick not to be tried again.

For the West and particularly for President Reagan, Mr Andropov's death provides one of those rare moments in life when instinct and calculation can find themselves irresistibly together. That is, the opportunity now before Mr Reagan and he should seize it by going to Moscow for the funeral. Such a gesture would have enormous symbolic impact on the public mind of East and West.

Insecurity, in nations as in individuals, is more often a state of mind than a state of affairs. Coping with it is therefore as much a question of psychology as of strategy. The general anxiety about the state of the world, and of the possibility of nuclear war, is not actually supported by hard evidence of any inclination by either the Soviet Union or the United States to become engaged in nuclear power-play. They both know better than that. But the persistence with which Soviet spokesmen let East and West know that the long term purpose is the inalienable expansion of communism means that there can be no question of a status quo between stable systems. A world in which one of the major powers is Sovietized is thus inherently unstable. It is as well for the West to recognize this and, in order to minimize the danger of misunderstanding with Moscow, to be open about things and accept an adversary relationship between East and West. Psychologically, the insecurity of both sides reveals a fear of aggression in both sides. It should be admitted; and then perhaps the challenging postures can be muted.

So President Reagan should attend the Moscow funeral for many reasons. First, because it is the decent and uncalculating thing do, and he is a decent man. It is not, after all, any cast-iron ideology which we have to offer in the West; it is a tradition of decency and respect for the individual which would be exemplified by President Reagan's attending the funeral of a man who headed a system which he rightly declared to be profoundly unpleasant.

Secondly, he should attend because summit meetings are fundamentally not about practical measures but about atmosphere. They should speak to the emotions of the world, not to its calculations. That is normally difficult to achieve at a summit which has to be prepared for with diplomatic but deadening thoroughness. There would be a spontaneity about President Reagan in Moscow, and his arrival there would be entirely without prejudice. Neither side would have to meet expectations, nor to descend from the summit with a profit and loss account of the business conducted there.

The profit would be earned later, from the fact that President Reagan, with a single gesture, had been able to personify the policy of seeking dialogue with the Soviet Union without feeling the need to come up with some new and public initiative. The real business of disarmament should be put through in quiet negotiations, followed by a second summit in which Mr Andropov's successor, whoever he is, would be expected to come out of the Kremlin and meet the American President somewhere in the West. In the new circumstances, post-cruise, the presence in Moscow of Vice-President Bush would not be enough. President Reagan should go; and if he can so decide – who knows? – perhaps the legacy of Mr Andropov's short sojourn at the top would not seem so grey and uninspiring after all.

BELTED AT NINETY

Earldoms came in with Canute and only the most churlish egalitarians will take no pleasure from the news that they were not, after all, doomed to pass from our history by the precedent apparently set when Mr Harold Wilson refused to recommend any hereditary peerages. In accordance with logic, Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, as he now is, was only offered (and presumably would only have accepted) a life peerage instead of the earldom customarily bestowed on former Prime Ministers. Now his old adversary, Mr Harold Macmillan, the begetter of both the life peerage system and the right to disclaim hereditary peerages, has celebrated his 90th birthday by accepting the earldom he had resisted for 21 years. He has, after all, decided to give future generations the chance to recall his own distinction and achievements in the title of his descendants.

In the minds of most of us (despite the endeavours of social historians to make us think differently) history weaves itself largely round the deeds, names and titles of famous men, and it accords with our feeling for continuity that the description earl (even though no demesne goes with it) should still occasionally be available for men of special distinction, though hereditary peerages should not again become an everyday honour.

Mr Harold Macmillan is a man for whom public affection has grown with the passing years, even while the economic policies associated with his Prime Ministership have become outmoded. They are policies which under Mrs Thatcher (who has done her best to reverse them) would be described as Wet. Indeed, when Mr Macmillan refused to temper his public spending to the demands of his Chancellor, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, and the other two Treasury Ministers, Mr Enoch Powell and Mr Nigel Birch, he was acting in obedience to the intellectual hegemony of neo-Keynesianism which prevailed throughout politics until the backbench revolution which replaced Mr Edward Heath by Mrs Thatcher.

It was his government also which inaugurated the fashion for incomes policies (by which Mr Heath was destroyed politically three parliaments later) and for attempts to promote economic growth and prosperity by planning organizations (indicative planning was the term of the time) which paved the way for much that Mr Wilson's government attempted. The idea that began with "Neddy" under Mr Macmillan achieved its crescendo and collapse with Mr George Brown's National Plan.

Yet though he pursued expansion too avidly, Mr Macmillan did, by the creation of prosperity for a very great number of people, create a new popular Conservatism which was among his greatest achievements. He restored the Conservative Party after the demoralization of Suez; he preserved an independent nuclear deterrent for Britain while playing a major part in the Test Ban treaty; by his political attitudes and initiatives he did a great deal for social unity.

Indeed, so successful was his popular Conservatism that he virtually drove the Labour Party into trying to shed its socialist fundamentalism under Gaitskell and Wilson, and if the Conservatives had achieved one further term under Macmillan, they would have changed the terms of reference in British politics.

In his day, Mr Macmillan dominated the political scene like an urbane sage, whose worldly-wise political tactics were given style by his understanding of the broad sweeps of history. A cultivated man whose intellectual attitudes had been formed in the golden climate of Edwardian Oxford he also mastered before any other politician the art of communication with the masses by television. Though himself in love with tradition, he was also in practice a sceptic who even adopted a somewhat whimsical attitude towards honours when he himself had patronage. When he first refused an earldom it was as though he saw a greater dignity in remaining a plain untitled man. In his memoirs he noted that the Queen had written to say that "she did not offer me the Earldom when she came to the hospital (when he was ill) for fear I would be embarrassed, since she knew my disinclination. But she made it clear I could have it on her authority (that is, not 'on advice') if ever I wanted it. This was very gracious".

He has now accepted after so long a delay that, if there are Earl Macmillans a couple of centuries hence, that will be owing as much to Mr Macmillan's happy longevity as to his distinction as a statesman. Perhaps, even now, there is a little whimsy in his acceptance. Certainly he does not need the Lords for a platform when he can still hold a television audience, or an Oxford Senior Common Room, spellbound. But we owe him a debt for giving the earldom a new lease of life. Perhaps that was his principal motive. Whether it was or not, nobody is better suited to keep this ancient title alive than the politician who, more than any other of our time, has infused his practical politics with so strong a sense of history.

Medical arithmetic

From Mr Richard Wakeford

Sir, The DHSS working party on medical manpower reportedly states that we need fewer medical graduates to fulfil the demands of the NHS. Numbers are deceptively simple things, though, and many involved in the training of doctors would disagree with the DHSS's arithmetic. But even if it is correct, the deduction that what is needed is to close a medical school, possibly, and to cut student numbers is illogical. It is also a potential waste of a resource that the country has striven to develop over the last

able and with a background in science, but they have little or no experence of other walks of life.

The suggestion that substantial numbers of mature students should be brought in to leaven the mixture, as in Sweden, has traditionally been opposed by the argument that this would not be fair to the nation or the NHS, as such graduates' service life would be lower than that of school leavers.

Now this no longer applies, since the time of shortage of medical manpower has apparently passed. So we are in a position greatly to increase the proportion of mature entrants to medicine.

If this were done whilst maintain-

to the overall quality of their medical graduates and the patients would benefit.

This is not to say that all is now perfect and that improvements are not possible. Aberdeen, for example, is soon to be without five major clinical professors and Scotland as a whole produces nearly twice as many doctors per head of population than do England and Wales.

In such circumstances some rationalization between schools may be prudent and efficient; but the main thrust should be to improve the quality of the graduate and not to respond naively to apparently "clear" implications of manpower arithmetic.

Yours faithfully,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Avoiding pitfalls in pregnancies

From Dr R. G. Edwards and Dr P. C. Steptoe

Sir, A spate of reports has described the birth of twins, triplets and quadruplets following fertilization *in vitro*. Obviously, multi-pregnancies can be established without much difficulty by placing two or more embryos into a patient. There must be social and medical reservations about the advisability of having too many babies at one time.

Twins can perhaps be managed by most parents, but how about triplets, quadruplets and more? The situation with test-tube babies is obviously different to the use of fertility drugs, where the number of embryos entering the womb cannot be predicted with similar accuracy.

Replacing two or three embryos raises the chances of a woman becoming pregnant, but what should be the maximum number? The answer may depend on a variety of factors, for example the mother herself and her age. It is also possible that the first embryo implanting in its mother may help a second and third which might otherwise die, so that many pregnancies become multiple.

On the evidence of our work so far, we believe that replacing three embryos is sufficient to avoid most of the pitfalls of multi-pregnancies while at the same time increasing the chance of pregnancy adequately. Others may believe that replacing more will add a further increment to the chances of becoming pregnant and the increased incidence of triplets and quadruplets is acceptable.

Surely, the number of embryos replaced in a mother should be restricted until the consequences of replacing two or three are known. Some guidelines are clearly necessary; this could be another topic for reference to the Warnock committee.

We are your obedient servants,
R. G. EDWARDS,
PATRICK STEPTOE,
Bourn Hall Clinic,
Bourn Hall, Bourn, Cambridge.

Tito and Alexander

From Miss Elisabeth Barker

Sir, In connexion with Timothy Gardam's letter (January 20) on *Field Marshal Alexander's* responsibility for the repatriation of anti-Tito Yugoslavs in May, 1945, it is perhaps worth pointing out that there is no need to go to American records to establish this.

In the Public Record Office in Kew there are documents showing that on May 15 Alexander sent a request to Tito to accept "approximately 200,000 Yugoslav nationals who were serving in German armed forces" who had surrendered to the British and "to arrange with GOC Five Corps the rate which they can be received and handing-over point on Austrian frontier south of Klagenfurt for return to Austria" (WO 202/319 FX 75902).

I am told by those who are in a far better position to know than I am that this request could not possibly have been sent in Alexander's name without his knowledge and approval. It also seems totally understandable why he made it. At that moment he was under instruction to close the Austrian frontier to Tito's forces (and to induce the Tito forces already inside Austria to withdraw), but at the same time "to avoid a clash with the Yugoslav forces except in self-defence" and "to hold the position without using force."

This was mainly because President Truman had not yet agreed to the use of force. Alexander had one division in Austria to cope with this situation and with the many thousands of disintegrating enemy formations, German, Cossack, Hungarian and various types of Yugoslavs. Given these circumstances, fair-minded people would, I think, not be in too much of a hurry to throw stones.

At least the events of May, 1945, do not seem to have haunted Alexander unduly. In March, 1953 – as just-released British documents show – he helped to welcome Marshal Tito to London and, as Defence Minister, had talks with him on closer cooperation against aggression in Europe (meaning Soviet aggression).

Yours truly,
ELISABETH BARKER,
7A Queen's Road,
Richmond, Surrey.

Off the track

From Sir David Hunt

Sir, Why is it that no one and nothing has a record any more but only a track record? I notice the Chief Secretary of the British Railways Board (February 7) rejects the suggestion that their track record is poor; though some commuters might disagree with that, he was actually referring to archives.

The pointless pleonasm is all the more inexplicable in that we call them race courses in England, not race tracks.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
DAVID HUNT,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.

Aerial pictures

From Mr John Wright

Sir, Dr Tom Hassall's letter (January 21) raises several interesting points. Ten years ago the Royal Geographical Society published – and has recently reprinted – a 12-page pamphlet, which I was asked to write, entitled "Air Photographs for Small Expeditions", as part of its advice to these.

The first eight pages contained nothing not set out in greater detail

and, of course, the Central Register of Air Photography.

The RGS also circulated a questionnaire to several foreign governments asking for details of their air photo records and how copies could be obtained. Over 40 replies were received and filed at the society and it was clear that the most common holder was the national survey department, or, in some cases, a national geographical institute.

The replies also showed a not unexpected correlation between each country's good relations with its neighbour and freedom from mili-

archaeologists, the Ordnance Survey, with its expertise and its offices throughout the country, would seem to be the organization best equipped to hold the records and index maps of all recent and future photographs, especially those which could be used for supplementing its maps.

National institutions like the RGS should also hold information about where these photographs can be seen and obtained. And whatever is decided it would seem to be a good moment to change the register's unfortunate name.

Yours faithfully,

The Queen's role in Commonwealth

From Professor Anthony Low

Sir, May I offer some comments on your latest leader on "Queen and Commonwealth" (February 6)?

1. The Queen's position as Head of the Commonwealth does not derive principally from the United Kingdom's Royal Titles Act but from the aggregate of such ascriptions by the many independent member nations of the Commonwealth.

2. So many other people regularly wear several different hats simultaneously and successfully, and of various sizes too, so why not the Queen?

3. The all-up cost of royal tours is infinitely greater for host countries than for the United Kingdom. We British taxpayers get remarkable value from the Queen being Head of the Commonwealth. Our quite modest financial outlay provides no warrant for British ministers proceeding to arrogate to themselves a special right to advise the Head of the Commonwealth on her handling of the role. That really would cause an uproar.

4. By all accounts the Queen knows very well that it is an inescapable fact that occasions can arise when her responsibilities as a constitutional monarch would put her quite "on her own with her private advisers". In recent months that in public view has been the experience of the Governor of Queensland, the Yang di Pertuan Agong of Malaysia, and the Governor General of Grenada. It is why such positions are ultimately so onerous. But the Head of the Commonwealth is not as such a monarch, and has no like constitutional responsibilities, so the inherent problem is in this connection in principle decidedly smaller.

5. Surely in practice, too. It was an imaginative and sensible innovation to include an interview with Mrs Gandhi, the chairman of the 1983 Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting, in the Queen's 1983 broadcast. If (to pick up your argument) Sir Robert Muldoon continues as Prime Minister of New Zealand long enough to chair some future Heads of Government meeting it would be perfectly appropriate for him to be on her programme too.

The Commonwealth is no longer the Empire in new clothes. Nor is it a "chimera" (Mr Powell, feature, January 26). No Australian Prime Minister in recent years has troubled much about coming to London, except to pay respects to the Queen of Australia. What would be the point? But they have been assiduous in attending Commonwealth conferences, since nowhere else can they encounter three dozen or more of their kind and at first hand test the temperatures right around the globe.

They know, as we should, that the Commonwealth has turned out to be the most useful (and thankfully unspectacular) cross-national, cross-continental, cross-cultural institution that a shrinking and troubled world possesses. Thanks not least to the Royal Family it has lately been developing its style very well.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LOW,
Churchill College,
Cambridge.
February 6.

From Mr Jack Shapiro

Sir, Your editorial on Queen and Commonwealth rightly says that her position as Head of the Commonwealth is symbolic. You then say, "But one must beware of subjecting symbols to the austere stare of the logician or the jurist". Yet that is what you proceed to do for the rest of the editorial.

The Queen in her own inimitable way wished to indicate that she was in sympathy with the need for the civilized world and especially at Christmas, to give thought to the possibility of redressing the acute imbalance between the rich and poor nations. The greed of the former and the despair of the latter merit such sympathy.

The need to restore Britain's greatness is not achieved in military prowess in the Falklands or Beirut, but in the need to rethink the idea of the Commonwealth so that the word is full of meaning and gives the Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, a stature that no logic or juristic title could bestow.

Yours faithfully,
JACK SHAPIRO,
100 Brim Hill, N2.
February 7.

Pensions power

From Mr Brian E. Mitchell

Sir, Your leading article (Finance and Industry, January 18) shares both the conclusions of the Centre for Policy Studies on portable pensions and the facile nature of their arguments.

We are told that today's system inhibits job mobility, concentrates funds in the hands of the institutions and divorces people from control of personal savings. In order to succeed the argument must not only be valid, but portable pensions would have to produce an improvement. One or both conditions are absent on each point.

However much loss of pension rights ought to inhibit job mobility there is no evidence that it does do so. Indeed, forthcoming early leaver legislation is to protect scheme members from the consequences of changing jobs irrespective of loss of pension rights.

It seems highly improbable that generally individuals would invest more enterprisingly than pension fund managers. The average individual seems likely to invest more conservatively than a fund manager, not less.

If, sensibly seeking spread, he invests in unit trusts or insurance policies, investment would still be in the hands of the institutions. If he behaves as the CPS would like and invests more freely in risk enterprises, what happens to the unsuccessful (it being in the nature of risk enterprises that some will fail)?

Services to "better" investment may or may not benefit the economy; they will certainly not necessarily benefit the individual.

The objective of occupational pension arrangements is not to provide power; it is to provide pensions. However much room there may be for improvement in member participation in pension scheme management, scheme managers and their members have this objective in common.

One doubts that this could be said of the advocates of portable pensions, whose objectives seem orientated towards political and financial change rather than the more effective provision of retirement benefits.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

BRIAN E. MITCHELL,
18 Hendrick Avenue, SW12.
January 18.

Attitudes to freeports

From the Chief Executive of West Midlands County Council

Sir, The article by Jock Bruce-Gardyne in *The Times* (January 25) is somewhat puzzling, because it does not clearly state whether he is only against a freeport at Prestwick, or against the principle of freeports.

So far as the former is concerned, then it would obviously be inappropriate for me to comment, but on the question of the principle, then this has already been accepted by government after a searching inquiry and, perhaps more importantly, has been welcomed by industry and commerce, especially in the West Midlands.

The West Midlands' submission is by no means a last effort of a dying region, rather is it further evidence of a vigorous approach and determination to win back to the area their former economic prosperity.

The proposal meets all the criteria laid down by government. The airport site is available and serviced. Private sector finance has been secured and there will be no burden on either the taxpayer or the ratepayer. In addition, there is substantial evidence of firm demand. This, together with the support of the Birmingham Chamber of Industry & Commerce, makes it a favourable proposition which should receive serious consideration.

Its acceptance by government would do much to encourage the efforts already made by industry and commerce in this area to secure their own salvation. It would be a further opportunity to demonstrate the potential strength of this region and its ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

The half-hearted approach of Lord Bruce-Gardyne might or might not be a true reflection of attitudes elsewhere in this country. It certainly does not reflect the attitude of the West Midlands.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. HENDER,
Chief Executive,
West Midlands County Council,
County Hall,
1 Lancaster Circus,
Queensway,
Birmingham.
January 25.

Palm House at Kew

From the Secretary of the Victorian Society

Sir, The Victorian Society wholeheartedly supports the views expressed by Dr Edward Diestelkamp regarding the proposed reconstruction of the Palm House at Kew (January 25).

It might be supposed that this Grade I listed building would be subject to normal listed building legislation. Not so, because the Palm House is a Crown building and is exempt from these controls.

Last September the Property Services Agency organised a presentation, at which they described their sweeping plans for the reconstruction of the building and reorganisation of its interior. These included the replacement of all the wrought iron glazing bars with stainless-steel, the removal of the plant shelves and much of the cast iron floor grating and the changed layout of the paths.

We consider the Palm House a building of such historic importance that no such changes should be made without the closest consultation with experts in the field and the indispensable safeguard of the full listed building consent procedure.

It is an appalling anomaly that the large number of historic buildings which come under government control do not have the same degree of protection as that accorded to all other listed buildings.

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER FREEMAN, Secretary,
The Victorian Society,
1 Priory Gardens,
Bedford Park, W4.
February 6.

Robust way with hedgerows

From Mr George Curtis

Sir, Though I farm in Constable's country I do not know which patch of dirt is the subject of the vandalisation programme that so infuriates the noble Lord Melchett (February 6). I do, however, grow very weary of the continued onslaughts on farmers by the likes of him.

As a conservationist he should know by now that an essential part in the preservation of any worthwhile hedge is its periodic razing to the ground: without such regular, and drastic, action it will merely self-destruct over time.

It is for this reason that Essex farmers have, for generations, cut their hedges to the ground every fifteen to twenty years.

In passing, it is worth noting that many hedges, particularly those of blackthorn, were in fact planted to be razed at far more frequent intervals – they supplied the faggots that were used to heat the ovens that so many houses still contain and were cropped every five years or so until comparatively recently. To survive as hedges they must be razed every decade or so.

I have little sympathy with my lord's bleating about the reinstatement of field in lieu of railway line. It was field before the railway came and he and his co-signatories would have been the first to object to its arrival.

The noble lord, like others of his persuasion, has a touching belief in the powers of planners, despite the fact that every society that relies on their services for progress makes little or none. The notion that committees of professional aesthetes shall be convened where'er a hedge shall be cut is worthy of a whole opera from Gilbert and Sullivan.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CURTIS,
Dalebrook House,
Dedham,
Colchester,
Essex.
February 6.

From Mr Colin Dickinson

Sir, Clearly, Lord Hampden, who wrote (February 8) accusing Lord Melchett and friends (February 6) of abysmal ignorance of the countryside, has never visited Courtyard Farm, where there have been established new hedgerows, belts of trees (where previously there were aeroplane runways), ponds and where in every possible way there is care and concern for the welfare of wildlife in the area.

In addition there are signposted walks and parking areas open to the public at all times. Delightful and highly educational open days are held at the farm and, by arrangement, parties of walkers, naturalists, etc. are made most welcome.

All this is combined with an efficient, productive and profitable farm business and is a splendid example to the farming community of East Anglia and elsewhere – even in Sussex!

Yours etc.
COLIN DICKINSON,
Wootton Rise,
Priory Lane,
South Wootton,
King's Lynn,
Norfolk.
February 8.

The lost leader

From Mr P. E. Buxton

Sir, In your third leader today (February 4) you vastly underestimate the affection which many people feel for the old fourth leaders.

Although too young to have enjoyed them when first printed, I avidly collect and devour the volumes of selected fourth leaders, with their delightful and witty dustjacket designs by Mr Osbert Lancaster, which were once published annually. These happy and diverting little essays, with their gentle humour and "rueful comment", are ideal reading for a reflective moment.

The return of the fourth leader would be a welcome countervail to the often harrowing accounts of world events.

Yours faithfully,
P. E. BUXTON,
49 Randall Place, SE10.
February 4.

Watch this space

From Mr Leonard Blomstrand

Sir, One only has to look upon the shelves of one's local stationers for evidence of the transitory nature of marriage in the mid-1980s.

Yesterday I observed a sumptuously bound volume described as "Wedding Album – refillable".

Yours etc

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: His Excellency Dr V. A. Seyid Muhammad and Shrimati Sara Muhammad were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for India in London.

His Excellency Mr Oyuny Hosbayar and Madame Hosbayar were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Mongolian People's Republic to the Court of St James's.

The Hon Sir Steven Runciman had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Order of Companions of Honour.

Sir Sacheverell Sitwell had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Order of Companions of Honour.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited ERA Technology Ltd (President, Mr F. J. Lane), at Leatherhead, Surrey.

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 10: The Prince of Wales this morning arrived at Edge Hill Station, Liverpool in the Royal Train and subsequently spent the day at sea in HMS Walkerton.

Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 10: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at the *Kids 'n' Cops* Charity Concert, in aid of the Townmead Youth Club, at Fulham Old Town Hall, London SW6.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for the Right Rev Dr John Robinson will be held in Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge, at 2 pm today.

A memorial service for Mr C. F. Williamson will be held at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, at 2.30 today.

Lady Hacking gave birth to a son at St Thomas's Hospital on January 20.

Dinners

Lord Brockway
Lord Brockway entertained members and guests of the International Cultural Exchange at dinner in the House of Lords yesterday. There were present:
The Ambassador of Cameroon and Mrs Dicko, the Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland and Mrs Dorr, and Dr R U Hingorani, chairman.

Kandahar Ski Club
The Kandahar Ski Club celebrated at Murren its sixtieth anniversary on January 30. At the invitation of the Schilthornbahn a dinner was held in the Piz Gloria (at summit – 10,000 feet). One hundred and eighty were present. Speeches were made by Herr Ernst Feuz, president, Schilthornbahn; Mr Peter Lunn, president of the club, and Herr Marc Hodler, president, International Ski Federation.

Cruising Association
Captain and Mrs John Arthur were the guests of honour at a dinner held by the Cruising Association last night at the Tower Hotel. The president, Mr Ewart Myer, was in the chair. The guests included:
The Chairman of the Cruising Committee (Sail and Power) of the Royal Yachting Association and Mrs Shefras and the Commodore of the Clyde Cruising Club and Mrs McKean.

Service dinner

39th (City of London) Signal Regiment (Volunteers)
The Lord Mayor and Sir John Donaldson, accompanied by the Sheriffs, were the guests of honour at a dinner given by Lieutenant-Colonel M. V. Upson and officers of 39th (City of London) Signal Regiment (Volunteers) at 79/85 Worship Street, EC2, last night. Others present included:
The Mayor of Hackney, Major-General R. Benbow, Signal Officer-in-Chief, Brigadier H G Meechie, Director of the WRAC, and the Master of the Skinners' Company.



A stoneware ritual vessel from the Treasures of Korea exhibition, which opens at the British Museum on Thursday, comes under the scrutiny of Dr Han Byong-Sam, director of the National Museum of Kyongju. The exhibit was one of two similar vessels found in the Gold Bell Tomb at Kyongju (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. A. B. Dorrien-Smith and Miss F. B. Smith
The engagement is announced between Jamie, younger son of the late Lieutenant-Commander T. M. Dorrien-Smith, of Tresco Abbey, Isles of Scilly, and Lady O'Hagan, of Sutton Court, Somerset, and Frances, daughter of Mr Frank Folsom Smith of Sarasota, Florida, and Mrs Ann Angle, of Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mr T. G. S. Busher and Miss J. D. Almond
The engagement is announced between Tom, eldest son of Mrs John Busher and the late Major J. F. S. Busher, of Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, and Jayne, only daughter of Mr J. Almond, of Chippenham, Wiltshire, and Mrs D. M. Almond, of Norwich, Norfolk.

Mr S. H. P. Edge-Partington and Miss S. J. Wilkinson
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Edge-Partington, of Basing Cowden, Kent, and Susanna, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Wilkinson, of Bessels House, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr A. R. Goble and Miss J. Griffin
The engagement is announced between Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs E. A. Goble, of Headington, Oxford, and Janne, elder daughter of Mrs Marae Griffin and the late Mr K. H. Griffin, of Oxford.

Mr D. G. A. Jackson and Miss N. Bryant
The engagement is announced between Dirik, son of the late Allan Jackson and of Mrs C. M. A. Jackson, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. T. Bryant, of Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Mr A. Johnson and Miss C. E. Mantell
The engagement is announced between Adrian Johnson, of Number 1, The Park, Highgate, and Clare Elizabeth Mantell, of Fishers Wood, Sunningdale, Berkshire.

Mr M. D. Kelleher and Dr D. J. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Denis Kelleher, of West Wickham, Surrey, and Dorothy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Campbell, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr S. King and Miss J. R. Hodgson
The engagement is announced between Steven, only son of Mr and Mrs T. King, of Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, and Janice Ruth, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Lewis Hodgson, of Green Lanes, London, London N4.

Mr M. Lavender and Miss J. C. Dix
The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. M. Lavender, of Durban, South Africa, and Julia Catherine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. E. Dix, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr R. Mackay and Miss A. C. Johnson
The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of Dr and Mrs E. V. Mackay, of Ayot Green, Hertfordshire, and Clare, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs A. P. Johnson, of Brighstone, Isle of Wight.

Mr G. C. W. McNiel and Miss E. A. Priestley-Cooper
The engagement is announced between Gordon, son of the late Mr C. McNiel, of Bramdean, Hampshire, and the late Mrs W. McNiel, and Anne, daughter of Captain and Mrs E. B. Priestley-Cooper, of Hook, Hampshire.

Mr J. V. H. Murray and Miss J. A. King
The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr C. J. Murray and of Mrs B. Murray, of Chiswick, formerly of Zimbabwe, and Judith, second daughter of Mr and Mrs A. H. King, of Bromley, Kent.

Mr C. J. Stump and Miss A. M. Boguslawska
The engagement is announced between Christopher Jeremy, only son of the late Denis Stump and Mrs Dorothy Smeeton, of Esher, Surrey, and Anne Marie, younger daughter of the late Konrad Boguslawski and Mrs Yolanda Boguslawska.

Mr L. T. van Hasselt and Miss A. Devillard
The engagement is announced between Ludolph Theodorus, son of Mr and Mrs C. A. van Hasselt, of Laren, The Netherlands, and Annick, elder daughter of the late Mr L. J. Devillard and of Mrs E. O. Devillard, of Mer, France.

Marriages

Mr H. W. Ashton and Miss S. J. Scantlebury
The marriage took place at Christ Church, Virginia Water, Surrey, on Saturday, January 28, of Mr Hubert Ashton, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. G. Ashton, of Wealdside, South Weald, Essex, and Miss Jane Scantlebury, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs I. W. Scantlebury, of Knowle Hill, Virginia Water. The Rev John Kidd officiated and an address was given by the Rev Simon Manchester.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Helen Scantlebury, Miss Katie Ashton and Anna and Sian Joseph. Mr Jamie Featherby was best man.

A reception was held at the Wentworth Club and the honeymoon is being spent in Devon and Paris.

Mr D. Peters and Miss A. Batwell
The marriage took place in Guildford, on Wednesday, December 21, 1983, between Mr David Peters, of Ammanford, Dyfed, and Miss Anna Batwell, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian L. Batwell, of 13 Chaucer Court, Guildford, Surrey.

Mr A. P. St. J. Quarry and Miss J. M. Wilkinson
The marriage took place on Saturday, January 21, at St Mary's Church, Walton-on-Thames, between Mr Adam Philip St John Quarry and Miss Judith Mary Wilkinson.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and was attended by Miss Claire Beadon, Miss Carol Alexander, Miss Miranda Barker and Alexander Corbett Burcher.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in India.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Terence Alexander, 61; Sir John Arbuthnot, 72; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barnett, 78; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger, 59; the Hon Mark Bonham Carter, 62; Sir Alexander Cairncross, 73; Sir Richard Dobson, 70; Air Commodore Sir James Easton, 76; Mr A. W. Forster, 56; Sir Vivian Fuchs, 76; Professor Roy Fuller, 72; Sir Alexander Gibson, 58; Mr Ian Gow, MP, 47; Sir Frederick Hoare, 71; Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, 69; Miss Mary Quant, 50; Baroness Sharples, 61; Mr John Surtees, 50; Mr E. W. Swanton, 77.

TOMORROW: General Sir John Archer, 60; Professor A. H. Beckett, 64; the Hon Sir Anthony Berry, MP, 59; Lord Boothby, 84; Mr John Burke, 60; Miss Annette Crosbie, 50; Sir James Dunnett, 70; Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, 56; Lord Granville of Eye, 85; Lord Greene of Harrow Weald, 74; Mr Paul Hamlyn, 58; Mr Anthony Howard, 50; Lord Moyola, 61; Mr J. M. Raisman, 55; Mr Franco Zeffirelli, 61.

Church news

Resignations and retirements
The Rev C V Colman, Vicar of St Matthew's, Cobo, Guernsey, diocese of Winchester, to retire on April 30.
The Rev S R Stevens, Vicar of Bussage and Eastcombe, diocese of Gloucester, to resign on April 1.

The science report has been held over.

Services tomorrow: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC 8; M 10.30, Jub TD (Naylor), the St Paul's Service, Rev G Routledge; HC 11.30, Missa Sancti Dominici (Rubbra), Int. Occuli omnium (Wood); E 3.15, Mag and Nunc dimittis (Wesley) in E, A, My soul, there is a country (Parry), Dean of King's College London.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: HC 8; M 10.30, Leighton, St Cecilia Service, Vinea mea electa (Poulenc), Rev S Charles; Sung Eucharist 11.40, Byrd Mass for four voices; E 3, Dyson in D, How lovely is thy dwelling place (Brahms), Rev T Wilmot; Organ recital 5.55; ES 6.30, Rev N Kelly.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: HC 9; Cathedral Eucharist 11, Orgoiosiom esse (Mozart), A. Duo seraphim clamabant (Plainsong), Ave verum (Mozart), Canon E James; Cathedral evensong (said), 3.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Mass 10.30, mass in G (Vaughan Williams), O altitudo divitiarum (Guerrero), Adoramus te, Christe (Monteverdi); Vespers 3.30, Magnificat primi toni (Palestrina) Ave verum (Elgar).

CHAPEL ROYAL AT ST JAMES'S: HC 8.30; MP 11.15, A, Jesu the very thought (Bairstow), Canon A J Russell.
THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY (public welcomed): M 11.15, TD Britten (Festival), A, Beati quorum (Stanford); Rev J Williams, HC 12.30.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich (public welcomed): MP 11; Int. Jesu, joy and treasure (Bach), A, O God My King (Amner), Rev P Malins.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks: M 11, Right Rev Monsignor J Moran.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL (public invited, entry via Lincoln's Inn Gateway): MP and Sermon, TD, Benedictus, A, Awake, my soul (Macpherson), Rev F V A Boyse. Organ voluntary.
TOWER OF LONDON (public welcomed): HC 9.15; M, 11, TD, Short Service (Byrd), A, He watching over Israel (Mendelssohn) The Chaplain.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC 8.30; MP 11.15 TD, Jub Deo, Noble in B minor, A, Surge illuminaire (Palestrina), The Master. Organ voluntary.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) (public welcomed): HC 8.30; Choral Eucharist 11, Rubbra, Missa in honorem (Dominici), Salvator mundi (Tallis), Rev C Taylor.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace HC, 8.30; M 11, Stanford in B flat, O for a closer walk with God (Stanford), Rev J Bleese; E 3.30, I was glad (Askew), Arnold in A, O Trinity most blessed light (Turner).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: Sung Eucharist 11, Rev M Beech.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place: HC 9.30; 11, Rev R Bewes, Invitation Service 6.30, Rev R Simpson.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street: LM 8 and 5.15; M 10.20; HM 11, Bairstow in D, Rev J W Holden, Solemn E, Sermon and Benediction, 6, Wood in E flat No 1, Rev J S W Young.
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH: HC 8 noon; Children's Service 10, 11, Rev J H L Croft, 6, David Royce.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: HC 8.15; Sung Eucharist 11, Missa cum jubilo (Duruflé), Jub Deo (Schutz), Rev Dr A W Marks.
HOLY TRINITY, Brompton: HC 8; HC (sung) 9; M 11, Rev J Collins, ES 6.30, Rev J Irvine.
HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street (Sloane Square Tube): HC 8.30; The Eucharist, 10.30 Canon Roberts; HC 12.10.

ST BARTHOLOMEW-THE-GREAT PRIORY (AD 1123): HC 9; M 11, TD, Vaughan Williams in G, A, Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Rev P. F. Coleman; E 6.30, Bevin (Dorian), A, Hear, O Lord (Amner), The Rector.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street: HC 8.30; Choral Matins and Eucharist 11, Purcell in C, TD Noble in B minor, The Rector; Choral E 6.30, (Doveton), Mag and Nunc dimittis, Short service (Byrd), Sermon in Music – Laudibus in sanctis (Byrd), Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow); Organ recital.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square: HC 8.30; Sung Eucharist, 11, Missa brevis (Mozart), A, To Thee, O Lord (Rachmaninov), The Rector.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: HC 8.30; Sung Eucharist 11.00, EP 6.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster: HC 8.15; Choral M and S 11, Canon T. Beeson; HC 12.15.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: Family Communion 9.45, The Vicar; MS 11.30, Rev F. Stevens; Choral E 4.15; ES 6.30, Rev C. Hedley.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington: HC 8 and 12.30; Sung Eucharist 9.30, Rev M. J. Thompson; M 11.15, The Vicar; E 6.30, Rev P. M. Arnold.
ST MARY'S Bourne Street: LM 8, 9.45, 7; HM 11, Mass Western Wind (Taverner), Lead me, Lord (SS Wesley), O sacrum convivium (Croce), Fr T. Bugby; E and Solemn Benediction 6.15.

ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH: HC 8 and 11, Missa simile est regnum coelorum (Victoria), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Rev C. K. Hamel Cooke; 6.30, Rev C. K. Hamel Cooke.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: HC 8.15; M 11, Rev E. G. H. Saunders; HC 6.30, Rev A. G. C. Pearson.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: HC 8 and 9; Solemn Eucharist 11, Rev R. G. Russell.
ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: 11, Rev Dr M. Ashton; HC 6.30, Rev G. Cassidy.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: HC 8; MP 11; Rev O R Clarke; EP 6.30, Dr M Israel.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road: LM, 8, 9; HM 11 Missa Brevis (Palestrina) Rev R Browne; E and Benediction 6, Rev Dr P Butler.
ST VEDAST, Foster Lane: SM 11, Messe Basse (Fauré), Ave verum (Fauré).

CROWN COURT CHURCH (Church of Scotland), Russell Street, Covent Garden: 11.15, 6.30, Rev J Miller Scott.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES, Gresham Street, EC2 (Underground St Paul's): Lutheran service 11; music by Mendelssohn, Bruckner, Brahms, Tallis and Byrd.
THE ORATORY, SW7: LM 7, 8, 9, 10; HM 11, Mass in D (Dvořák), O quam suavis (Byrd); LM 12.30, 4.30, 7; Vespers 3.30, Cibavit eos (Byrd).
ST ANSELM AND CECILIA, Kingsway: SM 11, Missa liturgica (Harrison), Ave regina caelorum (Gahagan).
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place (Holborn Circus): SM, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), Ave Maria (Victoria).
THE JESUIT CHURCH, Farm Street: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 11 (Sung Latin Mass) Missa secunda (Hassler), Jub Deo (Lassus), organ recital: 12.15, 4.15, 6.15.
REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (United Reformed), Tavistock Place: 11: Rev J Miller, 6.30, Mr R Maitland.

ST JOHN'S WOOD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH (Presbyterian/Congregationalist), Lord's Roundabout, NW8: 9.30am, Rev J Miller.
CENTRAL HALL, Westminster: 11 and 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor (special hymn presentation).
WEST LONDON MISSION, Hinde Street Methodist Church, W1: 11, Rev J A Newton; 6.30, President of the Conference.
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct, EC: 11 and 6.30 Rev B Johanson.
WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate: 11 and 6.30, Rev Dr R T Kendall.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road: 11, Rev Dr R C Gibbins.

Anthony Storey

New law contrary to natural justice

There is in my parish a hospital with a large modern Young Disabled Unit to which I am chaplain, and though I think I understand them and try to be with them, it was deeply disturbing to experience the bewilderment and even anger that greeted me after the Nottingham case concerning the marriage of a disabled former soldier.

The more so in that I believe their instinct is right and that the new canon law (C1084) is quite simply unacceptable as it stands. It is contrary to natural justice, it is theologically defective and requires amendment.

Many physically disabled people marry an able-bodied partner; some then make a home, adopt a family and achieve lives of fulfilment beyond what many of us could hope for. As Roman Catholics they must henceforth go to the register office if they wish the legal protection for purchasing a house or adopting children, and yet by so doing they put themselves out of the Church.

The disabled are penalized enough without our adding further disabilities unhinted at by any word of the Lord in Scripture or early tradition.

Take natural justice first. In English law I believe such a marriage is voidable but not void; that is, it stands but it may be terminated. If, for example, after marriage, one party is found to be impotent the marriage is voidable if the other party so wishes since the sexual exchange is clearly substantial to the normal marriage consent.

In Roman Catholic law this is also applied in the case of one partner's refusal to consummate. But if both parties are willing to live so, the marriage stands. I think at once of one Roman Catholic case where impotence was revealed after marriage. They have lived fine lives for 20 years and have adopted children.

According to the new canon law their marriage is not only voidable, but void: they are not married. This is unbelievable, that they received no sacrament when married in our Church 20 years ago.

Surely their lack of knowledge did not void the sacrament but did render it voidable. And had they known the situation prior to marriage and still chosen to go ahead, in what would their consent have differed? Canon 1084 incidentally allows no such distinction declaring both cases null in 1 and 2.

The position today has an added urgency arising from the great advances in medical care of the disabled and the ever unfolding wonders of aids and equipment developed by groups such as Stoke Mandeville Hospital and the Possum Users Association. The disabled are not a few isolated individuals, but multitudes of splendid men and women to whom the Church now refuses marriage.

"Antecedent and perpetual impotence . . . by its very nature invalidates a marriage" C1084. Let us look at the theology of this.

Clearly the physical expression of intercourse has never been required for marriage. Old folk come to us not infrequently and marry in church for sheer companionship; we know of death-bed marriages; we read of married canonized saints praised for their perpetual continence. St Joseph was commanded to marry Our Lady by the angel in his dream.

So, it is not the physical expression but the physical ability to express that makes or unmakes the marriage. Perhaps, facetiously, one might suggest that an impotent priest cannot be truly called celibate.

In what passage of Holy Scripture is all this to be found? Earlier Old Testament texts make procreation central to marriage, especially for the first building up of the chosen people. By the time of Ezechiel, Isaiah and Hosea, the image of husband and wife, the Lord and His bride, Israel, is almost wholly about love and fidelity. In the Song of Songs, children have no mention.

In the revelation of Our Lord there is not one text that speaks of children as the purpose of marriage. All that Jesus says is about relationship: His own coming being that of bridegroom. His first "sign" being a wedding. His central redemptive message being the restoration of Man and Woman as equal, at one, and unashamed.

And if one wished to take the words "two in one flesh" with sexual literalness, one would deny marriage to Mary and Joseph and to many Christian people.

When we turn to St Paul, there is no mention of procreation as being central to or even touching the nature of marriage. But he has much to say about relationships, and in Ephesians reflects exactly the imagery of God's kind of loving and the new Israel's response.

Men and Women have the right to image that, and it is an injustice to refuse it to a whole multitude of our brothers and sisters in Christ. That particular canon requires more than the making of exceptions for individual cases. It requires amendment.

Father Storey is Roman Catholic chaplain to the young disabled unit, Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, North Humberside.

OBITUARY

PRESIDENT ANDROPOV

Brief tenure as Soviet leader

Mr Yuri Andropov, who succeeded Leonid Brezhnev as General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on November 12, 1982, and became head of state on June 16, 1983 died on February 9 at the age of 69.

Andropov's prolonged illness – the seriousness of which was never publicly acknowledged by Soviet spokesmen as long as he was alive – meant that the brisk pace which he quickly set both in international diplomacy and in dealing with the problems of the faltering Soviet economy could not be sustained.

His initial style of leadership, while alarming for the more idle corrupt members of the Soviet elite – to whom Andropov was relentlessly opposed – was welcomed by the average Russian. There is still in the Soviet Union a hankering for a strong leader and there was a feeling that the last years of Brezhnev's leadership had been characterized by drift and a lack of a sense of direction.

If he achieved nothing else, Andropov began a badly needed process of rejuvenation of the Soviet political elite which had become older under Brezhnev's indulgent leadership than at any time in Soviet history.

However, even though the apparently ageless Gromyko was always at hand to provide continuity to Soviet foreign policy, the voice of the USSR in internatinal diplomacy was probably less generally heard during the past six months than it would have been had Andropov been physically fit. Dialogue between the super powers, already difficult, was rendered almost impossible when the leader of one of the super powers was slowly dying.

Andropov's path to the most powerful post within the Soviet Union was an unusual one. Unlike his two immediate predecessors, he did not come from a working class family background and, alone among General Secretaries, he had spent a lengthy period in charge of the country's security organs – as Chairman of the KGB from May 1967 until May 1982 – on his way to the party leadership.

Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov was born at the railway station of Nagutskaya in the Stavropol region of Russia on June 15, 1914. Soviet reference books note that his father was a "white collar railway employee". He may well have been a station master, though since it has been deemed desirable for Soviet leaders to have proletarian origins, this is nowhere stated. Interestingly, almost the first action Andropov took when he became General Secretary of the party was to criticise the running of the railways and to sack and replace the minister responsible for the railway system.

Andropov left school at the age of 16 in 1930 and between then and his eighteenth birthday had experience of several different types of work – as a telegraph boy, as a trainee cinema projectionist and as a boatman on the Volga – before entering a technical institute in Rybinsk to study water transportation. He had been a member of the Komsomol (Young Communist League) since the age of 16 and it was as a Komsomol organizer in a shipyard that he began his full-time political career in 1936.

In the late 1930s he was a secretary, and subsequently first secretary, of the Komsomol regional organization in Yaroslavl. In 1940 he became first secretary of the Komsomol in what was then the Karelo-Finnish republic. This work in Karelia gave him a number of valuable contacts, including Otto Kuusinen, the Finnish Communist who had been a leading figure in the Comintern and who was later to become one of the top party leaders under Khrushchev, and Nikolai Ogarkov who, at the time when Andropov succeeded Brezhnev as party leader, was a Marshal of the Soviet Union and chief of the general staff. During the war Ogarkov fought on the Karelian front where Andropov, in his capacity as local Komsomol head, was involved in organizational work rather than active combat, and especially the organization of army supplies.

When the capital of Karelia, Petrozavodsk, returned to Soviet hands in 1944, Andropov moved from Komsomol to party work, becoming second secretary of the city party committee. In 1947 he became second secretary of the Central Committee of the Karelian autonomous republic and in 1951 – two years before Stalin's death – he was transferred to the apparatus of the Central Committee in Moscow as a section head of a department.

During his years of party work in Karelia, Andropov supplemented the limited, technical higher education he had previously received by part-time study at the Petrozavodsk University (founded in 1940) and at the Higher Party School, but his formal higher education remained limited. If it be true that he knew English, it would appear that he acquired that knowledge by private study as late as during his chairmanship of the KGB.

In 1953 Andropov was moved from party work to the diplomatic service. He went to the Soviet Embassy in Budapest as Counsellor and chargé d'affaires and was given the rank of Ambassador in 1954. Andropov's four years in Budapest (he remained there until 1957) put him on the spot where the Soviet Union was to face probably its greatest external challenge since the end of the Second World War. Andropov was responsible for advising Moscow on the situation in Hungary in the period immediately prior to the Hungarian revolution in 1956 and took an active part in the crushing of that revolution when it came. His activities in Hungary illustrated more than one facet of his character. He demonstrated his toughness and even ruthlessness by playing his part in the suppression of the Hungarian revolution

On the other hand, Andropov is said to have warned Khrushchev of the dangers of 'counter-revolution' in Hungary prior to 1956 and advised him that Matyas Rakosi should be removed from the leadership of the Hungarian party. Andropov was an early supporter of Janos Kadar, with whom he established relations of trust and to whom he continued to extend his support when Kadar replaced initial repression, following the turmoil of 1956, with a gradual liberalisation from the beginning of the 1960s.

Andropov, at this time, still had some responsibility for what was happening in Hungary, though these responsibilities had been greatly extended to include all ruling Communist parties. In 1957 he had been appointed by Khrushchev to head the Central Committee Department of Relations with Communist and Workers' Parties of Socialist Countries, though Khrushchev himself and, after him, Mikhail Suslov, retained an overall responsibility for this area. He held this post until 1967 and in 1962, when Khrushchev was still First Secretary of the Soviet party, he was given the rank of Secretary of the Central Committee of the party. During this time, Andropov undoubtedly accumulated considerable expertise on the problems (and also the successes) of Eastern Europe, though a significant part of his time was doubtless devoted to the Sino-Soviet dispute which was the most important issue with which he had to grapple during his ten years in charge of the Socialist Countries department.

Though Sino-Soviet relations deteriorated as the Chinese "Cultural Revolution" got underway, the knowledge of the rest of the Communist world which Andropov acquired in this period was one of the considerable advantages he possessed when he became party General Secretary some 15 years later. Another asset was that he formed a team of consultants within his Central Committee department which included some talented individuals (among them, Georgi Arbatov and Alexander Bovin) who almost certainly were of great value to him as policy advisers during his General Secretaryship. The group included a number of people who were particularly committed to the anti-Stalinist aspects of Khrushchev's programme and, indeed, Andropov himself took a much more anti-Stalin line than his immediate superior within the party apparatus, Suslov.

Relations between Andropov and Suslov were said to be cool and it was apparently at Suslov's instigation that Andropov was moved out of the Secretariat of the Central Committee in 1967 and appointed Chairman of the KGB. By this time Brezhnev had succeeded Khrushchev, but was still only primus inter pares within a collective leadership in which Suslov wielded substantial authority. Though Andropov lost the power base which the Secretariat represented, he gained another (albeit a more ambiguous one) in the KGB, and the move could not be read as a demotion for he was simultaneously accorded candidate membership of the Politburo.

Thus began Andropov's 15-year stint as head of the Soviet security organs. During this time a successful campaign was waged against the dissident movement in the Soviet Union. Andropov's predecessor as head of the KGB had wished to deal with dissidents more drastically and had proposed the arrest of 1,000 intellectuals in Moscow alone. The policy which Andropov adopted, and which clearly had the full backing of the Politburo, was less crude. Even the signing of a petition could lead to the loss of a job for the person concerned, but those who heeded KGB warnings were not normally imprisoned. For those who persisted in their dissent, the penalties (or rewards) could range from labour camp to deportation to permission to emigrate.

While combatting political and nationalist dissent was one of the KGB's responsibilities under Andropov, and while the manner in which it was carried out did nothing to enhance the relatively 'liberal' image which Andropov had acquired with a section of the party intelligentsia during his years in the Socialist Countries department of the Central Committee, it was probably not Andropov's major concern as KGB chairman. Organized dissent was never strong enough for its repression to pose serious difficulties other than the effect that this might have on world opinion. Thus, fame (as in the cases of Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Solzhenitsyn) usually protected a political dissenter from the extremes of harsh treatment and more than a quarter of a million Jews and several tens of thousands of Soviet Germans were permitted to emigrate during the period of détente in the 1970s.

Andropov's main task was presumably to channel intelligence information to the Politburo (of which he became a full member in 1973). The KGB's intelligence-gathering activities at home and abroad should have made Andropov the best-informed member of the Politburo in terms of the extent of his knowledge both of domestic problems and of the politics and policies of other countries. Until he became KGB chairman, Andropov's career experience had done nothing to enhance his knowledge of the West. Fifteen years as KGB chairman may have done much to rectify that, even if it remained a second-hand knowledge. When he became General Secretary at the age of 68 in 1982, Andropov had still never visited a Western country.

Two deaths in 1982 facilitated Andropov's accession to the top post in Soviet politics. When Suslov died in January of that year, this not only created a vacancy in the Secretariat but removed an obstacle to Andropov's further political promotion. At the next session of the Central Committee – in May 1982 – Andropov became a Secretary of the Central Committee while retaining his voting membership of the Politburo. With Brezhnev's health declining, the subsequent months saw a good deal of jostling for power among his possible successors and, in particular, between Konstantin Chernenko (Brezhnev's own apparent favourite) and Andropov. Andropov's undoubted ability, his reputation for toughness and decisiveness and his knowledge and experience of both domestic and foreign affairs appealed to a majority of the Politburo, and his superior qualifications to represent the Soviet Union internationally were apparently accorded particular importance by the Defence Minister, Dmitri Ustinov, and the Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, among others.

Brezhnev died on November 10, 1982. His death was announced on November 11 and the fact that it was simultaneously announced that Andropov would chair the commission responsible for the funeral arrangements indicated that the Politburo had already met and chosen Brezhnev's successor. This was confirmed when the very next day the party Central Committee was convened and formally elected Andropov General Secretary. His election was proposed by his defeated rival, Chernenko, who noted that the Politburo had instructed him to make the speech of recommendation of Andropov.

Andropov lost no time in answering the calls of those among his supporters who insisted on the need for more discipline within Soviet society. A "law and order" campaign was instituted which included a strong emphasis on work discipline and attempts to deal with the problem of absenteeism. Even in his early months as leader, Andropov, however, dropped several hints that discipline on its own would not cure the ills of the Soviet economy and that economic reform was being considered. He spoke of giving more independence to industrial enterprises and of the need to link improved performance more closely with material rewards.

Andropov also took early initiatives in foreign policy. He clearly had hopes of strengthening the unity of the Communist camp and adopted a conciliatory attitude towards China. He tried to woo Western Europe away from the Reagan administration's position on arms control and indicated that the Soviet Union was ready for serious negotiations on arms reduction, though not on the basis of President Reagan's "zero option". The victory of Helmut Kohl and the Christian Democrats over Hans-Jochen Vogel and the Social Democrats in the German general election of March 1983 came as a partial setback to Andropov's foreign policy, but in general he showed considerable adroitness and flexibility in the pursuit of Soviet aims, and in international diplomatic exchanges put the United States somewhat on the defensive by appearing to pursue a moderation of the arms race with greater zest than that displayed by Washington.

The shooting down on September 1 of the Korean airliner, resulting in the death of all 269 people on board, was, however, a serious setback for Andropov's campaign to influence West European opinion against the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles. Though it subsequently became clear that the Soviet military decision to shoot down the jumbo jet was taken in ignorance of the fact that it was a passenger aircraft, the incident damaged the Soviet Union's international standing and put Andropov much more on the defensive. It was not until September 28 that he himself made a statement on the affair, and even then it was not broadcast by him personally.

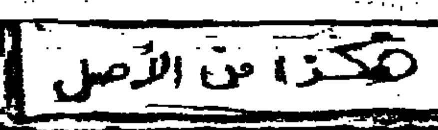
Though Andropov had in several respects significantly strengthened his political authority during his year of office, he was hampered by declining health. His last meeting with foreigners was on August 18 when he met a group of American Senators in the Kremlin. They noted Andropov's mental alertness, while confirming previous reports of his physical frailty, said to be caused by kidney and heart ailments.

His health problems made it difficult for Andropov to pursue with vigour the domestic shake-up and foreign policy initiatives with which he had begun. Yet he remained in command of the Soviet political hierarchy until the end. In May, 1983, Marshal Ustinov announced that Andropov was already chairman of the State Defence Council, and in the following months Andropov succeeded to the chairmanship of the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet (the formal headship of state) which had remained vacant since Brezhnev's death.

The seriousness, however, of Andropov's illness became abundantly clear in November and December last year. He missed the anniversary celebrations of the Bolshevik Revolution on November 7, the first time a Soviet party leader had done so. More important, when the central committee of the party had its second plenary session of the year in late December Andropov was too ill to attend.

Yet it seems likely that at that time either Andropov's doctors still held out some hope of his recovery or his stronger supporters succeeded in persuading their colleagues that this was a possible outcome. At any rate, not only did *Pravda* give pride of place to a long statement from Andropov personally which had been read out to the assembled Central Committee members, but the same plenary session approved the promotion of several Andropov appointees. At the regional level, too, there was significant turnover of party secretaries during the last month or so of Andropov's life.

It must in fact be accounted Andropov's misfortune that he reached the top post when he himself was in such a state of physical decline that he could not provide the vigorous and more flexible leadership of which some promise had been held during his first weeks as General Secretary.



12,13
Travel: Old glory in the Southern states; a home exchange in California; flotilla sailing in the Aegean; fare deals

14,15
Travel; In the Garden; Review: Paperbacks of the month; **Values** on the latest in bathrooms; ideas for St Valentine's Day; **Drink**

16,17
Preview: St Joan and Star 80; **Films on TV;** Critics' choice of **Dance, Music, Opera, Theatre, Films and Galleries**

19,20
Family Life: Leaving home; **Bridge; Chess;** Stamps; Prize crossword; **Out and About:** Hunting and fishing; **The Week Ahead**

THE TIMES Saturday

11 – 17 FEBRUARY 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Pulling power of the new pools

Scenes at Fulham Pools: Photograph by Suresh Karadia




They have all the trappings of a tropical sunspot but they are here on our doorsteps. **Rupert Morris** tests the water in the leisure pools which are revolutionizing our idea of swimming

"Fulham Riviera" *might give a* better idea of the place, but it doesn't quite trip off the tongue.

You would be unlikely to guess that inside the prosaically-named Fulham Pools are five separate pools: one with a beach, wave-machine and islands with fountains; one for diving (with a porthole through which divers can be glimpsed underwater); one at the end of a water chute which twists through an imitation rockery; a shallow one for teaching; and an "activity pool", *of conventional* rectangular shape.

Nor would you expect palm trees and other tropical vegetation, and all the gaudy decor of the seaside. *The point* is that the Fulham Pools, in west London, like a rapidly increasing number of public swimming-baths in Britain, are part of the leisure-pool revolution.

Gone – or at least going fast – are the days when a visit to a public pool was acutely depressing, if not positively frightening. No longer is the hapless swimmer *forced to shiver in the* changing rooms, weep from the *chlorine and cower* from humourless lifeguards only too anxious to enforce the long list of rules (no running, no jumping, no splashing etc). At last swimming, liberated from its worthy image of good, honest exercise, can be fun.

Palms, beaches and an atmosphere *of the tropics*

A leisure pool is more akin to a James Bond film set or something out of Disneyland than to the swimming-baths that some of us remember. The palm trees, the beaches, the gaudy decor are set in buildings heated to a temperature that is consonant with water kept at about 84°F. Wave-machines are *a common* feature, whipping up the water with air propelled by a *fan through* chambers hidden in the pool's walls. It is a place for *the family*, rather than the "serious" swimmer.

The new pools have proved a phenomenal popular success in the *brief time since* their introduction to Britain in the *mid-1970s. They* represent an extension of the "Sport for All" philosophy *propounded by the* Sports Council. A research document *produced* by the council recently shows that the next 10 years *will* see the building of more than 200 indoor pools, of *which a third* [illegible] Some will probably the most spectacular, with water chutes and slides that emerge from an octopus, an elephant and a dragon, and a 25-metre surfing pool – complete with a wave-machine; the whole plastic-domed area is decorated like a tropical sunspot. Built in 1980 at a cost of £5m, it is Wales's foremost tourist attraction, with half a *million visitors* a year. It even makes a profit – something that *hardly any other public baths* could ever realistically contemplate.

More typical than Rhyl, but *scarcely less ambitious*, is the project recently completed in *the London borough of* Hammersmith and Fulham, which now boasts two splendid leisure pools at Fulham and the White City.

They cost £7m but they have substantially reduced the annual losses previously made on the borough's two indoor baths and one outdoor pool, which were demolished five years ago. Whereas in 1977/8 251,000 people visited the old baths, this year – the first in which both the new ones will *have been fully operational* – about 900,000 are expected to come through the doors.

An even more resounding success, in percentage terms, has been achieved at the King Alfred Leisure Centre in Hove, near Brighton, where an annual figure of 81,500 swimmers has been transformed to 505,000 in the first year of the leisure pool's operation. The King Alfred pool may not enjoy the publicity of the nearby nudist beach, but it certainly attracts more swimmers. Brighton's old-fashioned indoor pools, meanwhile, *have already noticed* a sharp drop in attendances.

Even at Bletchley, *near* Milton Keynes, where one of the *first leisure pools* was built 10 years ago, attendances are *still rising*.

Tim Butcher, the 35-year-old manager of the Fulham and White City pools, verges on the messianic in his devotion to the concept. "The big difference between the old municipal baths and pools like these is that we have applied marketing techniques", he says, producing a series of posters which won a Sports Council award.

"Swimming pools are competing with other forms of entertainment. It's easy for *people* to turn on the television. To make them come here we've got to make it attractive. So there are no lists of dos and *don'ts*. We don't treat people as potential hooligans, but as *respectable* customers, and we try to respond to their demanager if they have any complaints. And he talks constantly of the needs of different "user-groups", and the need for flexibility.

The result is a programme of activities that makes Butlins look like a rest camp.. From 7.45 am to 9 am, the pools are reserved for members of the "Early Bird Club" (membership by subscription); from 9 am to noon *they are used* by schools, and in the afternoons they are open *to the public* at *half-price*, mainly for the benefit of the *unemployed. On several evenings*, they are confined to the over-25s, and there are special lunchtime sessions for the over-50s and "mothers and toddlers". The various different pools open and close at different times.

Besides the swimming, there is a sauna, solarium, spa bath, beauty treatments, keep fit and yoga classes. Children's parties can be arranged, and a series of Christmas parties will be organized this year for the first time. A few years ago, who would have dreamed of having a Christmas party at a public swimming-bath? Admission to this wonderland costs adults 90p and children just 45p: adults get in for 45p in the afternoon.

The Fulham system may seem hyper-organized, but no one could fail to be impressed by the efforts made to cater for *every kind of customer. Infants* for instance, which few sane *mothers would ever previously* have taken along to the public swimming-baths, are *provided* with play-pens by the poolside, nappy-changing benches, and high-chairs in the restaurant. There are are excellent facilities for the disabled.

There have been complaints, like the fact that the pool is never open after 8.30 pm. But experiments in late opening have proved that there is not sufficient demand. Mr Butcher is now planning to set up a users' forum so that he and his staff can respond quickly to any suggestions.

His attitude is typical of the new consumer-conscious style of leisure-pool managers. Allen Sugg, deputy manager of the King Alfred pool at Hove, says: "Leisure pools give people more opportunity to express themselves. I think it's like the introduction of adventure play*grounds.*"

Mike Robertson, manager of *the Bletchley Leisure Centre*, whose clover-leaf-shaped pool is *mainly shallow water*, says that initial opposition was overcome when serious swimmers were given the option of swimming at newly-built competition pools within the borough. The leisure pool still attracts far higher attendances than any of its competitors, which is not surprising in view of the low admission price: entrance to the King Alfred pool in Hove costs adults 75p (children 35p): at Bletchley the prices are 46p adults and 23p (children).

All this is evidence of how far public swimming-baths have come since the first stages of their development in Britain after the First World War. (We were slow to learn from the Romans who built baths of a magnificence that has never been surpassed, even by American multi-millionaires!)

The turning-point was the introduction of swimming to the school curriculum, an idea put forward in a book called the *Swimmer's Practical Manual*, published in 1864. The suggestion was sound, even if the authors deserve more credit for *their* foresight than for their poetry:

"To swim with ease, and
confidence, and grace
should in Great Britain have
acknowledged place
of recognition; and by law
decreed,
be taught as freely as we're
taught to read;
forming a part in education's
rule
in every college, and in every
school."

The advice was belatedly heeded and, with the help of a campaign in the *News Chronicle* in the 1930s, the first batch of municipal baths were built in Britain between the wars. There was then a lull until the 1950s.

By then people on the Continent were beginning to dream up more inventive schemes, and in 1957 one of the

Twinge of regret for the fate of the outdoor pool

first wave-pools was built, the Dianna baths, in Vienna. Such inspiration was notably lacking here where as late as 1970 the most notable advance had been changing the detergent from chlorine to sodium hyperchlorite, or chlorine mixed with ozone, which removes the pungent smell; heating methods also improved dramatically.

Now leisure pools are taking over and it would be absurd, in view of the evidence, to deny that they are what people want, or that they have introduced an enormous number to a healthy and enjoyable activity which they might otherwise never have experienced.

But one can be forgiven for feeling a twinge of regret at the accelerating rate of disappearance of open-air pools. Fifty-*five* outdoor pools have gone in the last five years and the Sports Council believes that of the 195 open in 1977, only 104 will definitely remain in 1992.

Mike Fitzjohn, of the Sports Council Research Unit in Manchester, says: "Most open-air pools date from the 1930s, and it's terribly difficult to make them pay their way these days, when they are only open for three or four months of the for up to 20 in the big coastal resorts."

Weston-super-Mare, in Avon, *is the only place in Britain* with a newly built open-air leisure pool, although Southport may follow suit. Elsewhere, the unpredictability of the weather, the need for economy, and fluctuations in holiday trade have made outdoor pools scarcely feasible. The French have experimented on a grand scale with the millionaire's favourite luxury, the indoor-/outdoor convertible pool; but even the most advanced dome-shaped, energy-saving contraption seems unlikely to attract many local authorities here.

Increasingly, councils are looking at ways of sharing pools with schools, and grafting them onto sports centres, or vice versa. This sort of development has the double advantage of spreading costs and providing extra facilities.

Perhaps those who want to swim and sunbathe are becoming more used to the idea of travelling abroad and are content with that. In spite of the splendour of last summer, there seems little likelihood of any slowing of the trend towards indoor pools. As Mike Fitzjohn puts it: "Swimming habits have *changed radically in the past* few years. It's not a seaonal *thing any more*. Nowadays people expect to swim all the *year round.*"

That may be so, but there are *still some of us who relish* above all those few precious English summer days of Ambre Solaire and ice lollies, when there is nothing more exquisite than to lie in the sun until it hurts and then to rush headlong into the cooling water.

We cling to the hope that it is not beyond the wit of tomorrow's architects and technicians to design an economical, perhaps convertible, open-air pool.

Antique antics: baths at Charing Cross, 1875 (above), and Chiswick (1926)

Where you can swim away into the future

The leisure pools of Britain, as notified to the Sports Council, are:

Bletchley Leisure Centre, Princes Way, Bletchley, MK2 2 HQ. (0908 77251).

Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, Middle Lane South, Rotherham. (0709 75197).

Plas Madoc Leisure Centre, Acrefair, Wrexham, Clwyd. (0978 2468).

Whitley Bay Leisure Centre, The Links, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear. (0632 31954).

Grimsby Leisure Centre, Cromwell Road, Grimsby, South Humberside. (0472 59161).

Oasis Pleasure Dome, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire. (0793 33404).

Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, Boundary Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham. (0602 234921).

Magnum Leisure Centre, Irvine, Ayrshire (0294 78381).

Northgate Arena, Victoria Road, Chester (0244 312024).

South Shields Leisure Centre, Temple Memorial Park, South Shields, Tyne & Wear.

Swansea Leisure Centre, Oystermouth Road, Swansea (0792 49126).

Crowtree Leisure Centre, Crowtree Road, Sunderland. (0783 42511).

Elephant & Castle Recreation Centre, 22 Elephant & Castle, London SE1 (01-582 5505).

Broxbourne Leisure Pool, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire (Hoddesdon 42841).

White City Pool, Bloemfontein Road, London W12 (01-743 3401).

Great Yarmouth Marina Centre, Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth NR30 2ER (0493 51521).

Britannia Leisure Centre, 40 Hyde Road, London N1 5JU (01-729 4485).

Cleethorpes Leisure Centre, Kingsway, Cleethorpes. (Romford 751525).

Elswick Park Pool, Elswick Road, Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne (0632 737801).

The Fulham Pools, Lillie Road, London SW6 (01-385 7626).

King Alfred Sports Centre, Kingsway, Hove, BN3 2WW (0273 734422).

Morecambe Leisure Park, Morecambe, Lancashire (0524 419419).

North Larkfield Leisure Centre, Larkfield, West Malling, Kent (0622 79345).

Rhyl Sun Centre, East Promenade, Rhyl (0745 31771).

Shankhill Leisure Centre, Shankhill Road, Belfast, BT13 2BD (0232 41434).

Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick Borders (0450 74440).

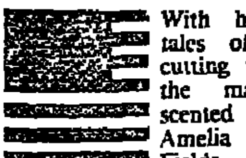
Wester Hailes Education Centre, 5 Murrayburn Drive, Edinburgh, EH14 2SU (031-442 2201).

OUTDOORS:
Tropicana Pleasure Beach, The

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Tim Jones investigates the persevering power and old glory of America's deep south

War and peace down the mighty Mississippi



With her tall tales of glory cutting through the magnolia-scented air, Amelia M. Fields is the kind of guide tour-operators dream about. For her, the War between the States, as it is referred to in America, ended but yesterday. And as she guides you through the battlefield at Vicksburg, where most of the combatant states have erected haunting monuments, the bayonets flash and cannons crash from the vividness of her mind.

Down from the high ground, where the trenches can still be seen, powerful tugs, at the head of barge islands carrying enough freight to fill 300 trucks, defy the current of the mighty Mississippi and remind everyone that the two lands are now one.

Eventually even Miss Fields concedes that the land of cotton lost the war and that the legend on the badge in the museum that "The South Will Rise Again" is as insubstantial as the fog banks that swirl in from the mighty river in winter.

But she does it in a southern style that owes nothing to any publicist's office. In Natchez, Mississippi, a Californian recently arrived to manage an hotel said he was still reeling from culture shock, while in New Orleans an easterner complained the city was oh so slow. Precisely. Slow and easy. It is a quality that distinguishes the deep south from some other parts of the United States where hype takes over from hospitality. Historically, the deep south may begin at the Mason-Dixon Line, but culturally it starts where the ubiquitous "Have a nice day" gives way to the drawling "You'll come back now".

The war, as Miss Fields manages to avoid telling you, was not only about economics. It was also about slavery. In their young history that truth appears to be too recent and painful to mention, which is a pity, for great strides appear to have been made to eradicate that part of their heritage. The black and white communities now work and live together in peaceful coexistence, although they still prefer to play apart. It was the guide in Natchez who came closest to alluding to that which is not spoken of. "We do not wish to go back to the days when cotton was king, but we take pride in the legacy of those days."

She was talking as the coach drove towards one of the scores of ante-bellum houses that are open to the public. In these mock-Grecian mansions the 2 per cent of whites who were slave-owners became the American aristocracy. Southern belles in *Gone with the Wind* dresses greet visitors and prove the universal truth that money buys style wherever one is living.

The mansions are magnificent. The best of every culture has been copied, and some of the follies make even great English eccentrics appear mundane. Brave souls can sip a mint julep on a plantation veranda, although to turn good bourbon sickly sweet ranks in blasphemy with the Scots habit of destroying good whisky with lemonade.

In one mansion a beautiful guide in a dress that swept the floor related the tale of a slave-owner who told his favoured manservant he would be buried with him. Whether it was to be irrespective of his state of health at the time of his master's demise she did not say.

When Mr Samuel Langhorne Clemens was penning *Tom Sawyer*, Natchez under the Hill was a rough and raw rendezvous for rogues, rivermen and romancers. It still tries to live up to that reputation.

The drink flows most freely and the jazz trumpets blow loudest when one of the mighty Mississippi stern-paddle steamers ties up at the jetty. As luxurious as any hotel, these marvellous floating mansions provide an incomparable platform from which to appreciate the scale and power of the mighty river. Hedonists would have to try hard to better the sweet-life taste of sitting on the upper deck, nursing a cold drink, as the spray from the spinning paddles causes a rainbow effect on the shimmering, setting southern sun.

From its decks, even Baton Rouge, a kind of Port Talbot in the sun, looks tolerable. To be fair, this industrial city has two saving graces. The first is the remarkable Capitol building hustled up by the infamous governor Huey Long. He was assassinated on its steps for his pains. The second is a truly impressive rural-life museum which covers many acres.

After the lazy hours of the rural deep south, late-night Bourbon Street in New Orleans hits the traveller as surely as a deep draught of the roughest Tennessee tipple. The sheer zest for life is invigorating and yes, of course, the jazz is wonderful. From Preservation Hall, a national monument, where sad-looking Negroes, each one of them over 80, play the blues, to faster haunts where the beat is quicker, the trumpet sounds sing into the Louisiana night.

They call New Orleans America's European masterpiece, and unlike some of their old world counterparts, so hasty to demolish, its city fathers have been careful to preserve it as a living museum. It is said that if anyone tries to change so much as a brick in the French Quarter they will be thrown to the mercy of the crocodiles which abound in the surrounding small-river countryside.



Southern style: The butler mixes a mint julep at Mount Hope plantation, Baton Rouge; the stern-paddle steamer Natchez on the Mississippi at New Orleans

Quite right too, for the buildings with their wrought-iron balustrades are a joy, as are the restaurants, where visitors can sample Creole cooking – crayfish, oysters, jumbo prawns and crab, sweet and spiced. How palates raised on such cuisine can eat grits, a tasteless corn porridge, for breakfast remains one of the unsolved mysteries.

Jackson Square is, as the southerners say, a wonderment. A grand Spanish-style cathedral provides the backdrop for street artists, market traders and gentle people who deny the myth that all America is a seething cauldron of discontent.

The city is not all old. Its commercial heart has office blocks and hotels that reach up and up. The daring of their design makes one despair of British skyscrapers, although New Orleans has the great advantage of a big blue sky to play with. Even the airport has a happy ambience rarely found elsewhere. Fresh-fruit drinks are dispensed by smiling waitresses, plying their trade from the innards of giant plastic oranges, while others sell fresh fruit and nuts from mobile stalls.

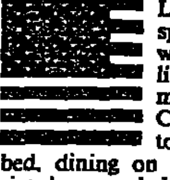
This is a particularly good year to visit the deep south, for New Orleans is spending more dollars than many small countries possess to stage the World's Fair. More than 20,000 hours of entertainment are planned. The "wonderments" will be many and magnificent. And when the excitement proves too much, beyond the city there is a land bigger than Britain with a population of just seven million waiting to hope "You'll come back now".

10-day (8-night) tour of New Orleans and six other destinations in the deep south, including a sightseeing steamboat cruise on the Mississippi from New Orleans, by Kuoni in conjunction with Tauk Tours, one of America's best coach-tour operators. Departs every Friday from May 11 to October 5. Tour price of £937 per person includes Pan Am 747 flight from Heathrow, professional tour escorts, first-class and deluxe hotel accommodation in shared rooms, air-conditioned coaches, most à la carte meals, and a two-day admission ticket to the World's Fair. Other sight-seeing admissions and even tips are taken care of.

For those who want more time on the river, Mississippi Steamboating Tours, a little more expensive, available on request.

Full itinerary from the Kuoni Special Tours Department in Dorking (0306 885954). For brochure requests and reservations telephone 0306 885044.

Luxury swops that give new meaning to a home from home



Last summer I spent a three-week holiday living like a millionaire on a Californian hilltop. Lying in bed, dining on the terrace or simply sprawled on the lawn, each night I watched the setting sun adorn the nearby Santa Ynez mountains with a reddish glow. A few paces across the hilltop and I had a panoramic view over the city of Santa Barbara and the most beautiful stretch of coastline in southern California.

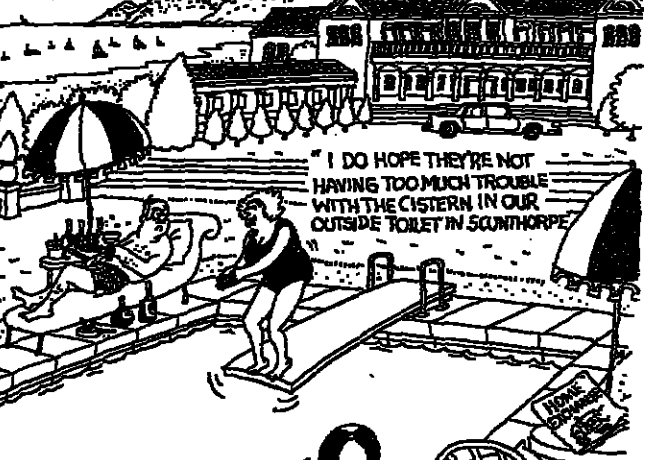
The house where I stayed with my wife and two children was equipped with what I, as an Englishman, regard as the ultimate in luxury living, but which many Californians regard as simple necessities – a swimming pool and a jacuzzi.

There was a very large station-wagon available when we wanted to go down to the beach, explore the surrounding countryside (where President Reagan has his mountain-top ranch) or sample the produce of local vineyards. And if we felt like staying "at home" we could gorge ourselves on avocados, peaches and citrus fruits growing in "our" orchard.

But perhaps its greatest attraction was that it did not cost us a penny. The reason is that we did a house exchange with a Californian doctor who took over our much more modest house in Washington. We definitely had the better part of the bargain.

Exchanging homes is becoming increasingly popular in the United States, and in some European countries as well. The most obvious advantage is that you can save huge amounts of money. The house I stayed in in Santa Barbara, one of the more upmarket of southern California's resorts, could probably have been let for up to $1,000 a week and the total outlay for my three-week holiday would have been at least $4,000.

But quite apart from that, I dislike holidays in hotels. I don't like the food, however good, I don't like being cooped up in one room, however grand, and I don't like crowds. In a "home of your own", you can do what you want, when you want. And if you don't want to do anything at all, you can, without having to worry about mealtimes or chambermaids wanting to make up beds.



It is also fun to stay in someone else's house. By looking at their photographs, their books, their furniture, you build up an image of the owners. We quickly decided we liked our doctor and his family very much, an opinion confirmed when we met them at the end of the exchange.

Of course, there are risks in exchanging homes. What if the one you take over is ugly, dirty, or next to a smelly gasworks? What if the people you exchange with run off with the silver or burn the place down?

Most of these dangers can be avoided by careful planning and close scrutiny of the directories put out by home-exchange organizations. You are usually expected to provide an accurate description of your house, the sort of area it is in and the nearby amenities. It is customary to exchange photographs of houses and families and your best guarantee against deliberate damage or theft is your presence in their house.

The important thing is to avoid raised expectations and to keep reminding yourself that your accommodation (and probably car as well) is free. I was exceptionally lucky to find such a beautiful place in Santa Barbara. But I would have been quite content with something much more modest. All I sought was a base from which I could get to the mountains, the sea and the sights of California. I got that, and much more as well.

I found the house in a directory published in the United States by Vacation Exchange Club (the same directory is put out in Britain by Home Interchange). It contains a massive list of people all over the United States and Europe who want to exchange homes.

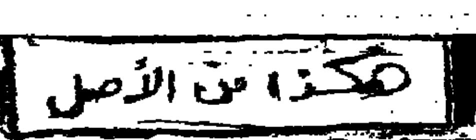
It has more than 750 entries for California alone, many of them seeking exchange with people in Britain. There were around 350 from Florida and several dozen from most of America's 48 other states. Hundreds more came from people in Britain, France, Italy and West Germany, and there were even some from as far afield as New Zealand and Madagascar.

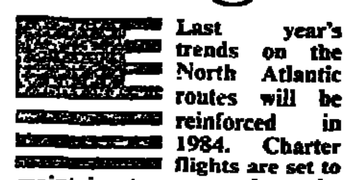
The directory simply lists names of potential exchangers and gives coded details of what they have to offer, approximate dates when their house would be available and which part of the world they want to visit. When you have decided what you want, you make contact with the owner by letter or telephone and try to work out a mutually agreeable date.

If all this sounds somewhat daunting, it is well worth the effort. My holiday in Santa Barbara was one of the best of my life.

Nicholas Ashford

The directory is available from Home Exchange, 8 Hillside, Farningham, Kent (0322 864527). It cost £14, or £16.50 if you want to have details of your own home included.





TRAVEL/2

Bargain flights across the North Atlantic

Last year's trends on the North Atlantic routes will be reinforced in 1984. Charter flights are set to maintain strong growth at the expense of scheduled flights and there will be even more seats on the market which means that prices will be kept the same as, *or a little higher than those of* last year. Here, then, is a roundup of bargains available in the months ahead.

Scheduled flights

Traditionally, scheduled flights are a bargain buy in the off-season rather than the summer peak when the demand for seats means the airlines can jack up their prices.

With some exceptions there are three main seasons. Low season runs until the end of March, shoulder operates from April 1 until the middle or end of June and peak takes over from then until either the middle or end of September.

At present the cheapest fare is Apex, available only for a round trip which must be booked at least 21 days ahead for a minimum stay away of seven days.

There are moves afoot to reintroduce standby fares which would be offered between July and October. Likely one-way prices would be £170 to New York and £230 to Los Angeles.

One of the advantages of the Apex fare is that it allows passengers an "open jaw" facility: you can fly out to the US and return from a point in Canada or even the Caribbean.

To a single destination typical Apex fares are: New York, £299 low, £329 shoulder/peak season; Chicago, £369 and £366; Los Angeles/San Francisco, £420 and £449; Miami, £299 low, £350 shoulder and £390 peak season; Boston £267, £298 and £313 respectively.

You can get better value for your Apex fare if you buy your ticket from flight specialists like Jetsave, Travellers or Poundstretcher. These companies may not necessarily be any cheaper but for the regular Apex fare they throw in goodies such as discounted rail travel to your departure airport and free duty-free vouchers, drinks, in-flight entertainment, and flight bags.

Other agents like Slade and



Airplan go one step further. On many routes they not only offer fares cheaper than Apex but they also throw in free insurance (Slade) and cut-price or free car hire.

Both offer a selection of departure dates with flights operating from Heathrow or Gatwick. Slade is selling return fares to New York at prices ranging from £279 to £299, Los Angeles/San Francisco from £373 to £429, Boston from £204 to £298 and Miami/Tampa/Orlando from £285 to £330.

Airplan is offering Detroit (via Boston) from £241 to £283 and Washington also via Boston from £239 to £281. The same company is selling Atlanta and St Louis from £285 to £370, Dallas £300 to £390 and Houston £310 to £390. And Airplan is promoting low-cost fares via Atlanta to Daytona Beach, a good gateway for central Florida. Fares range from £259 to £378 return.

Charter flights

The charter season runs from April to October. Flights operate from Gatwick and provincial airports to almost 30 US destinations, most of them on the East Coast. Charters are cheaper than scheduled flights, especially in the peak season. Normally they must be booked at least 21 days ahead with a stay away of at least seven days. Prices tend to fluctuate early in the season.

Main charter operators include North American Travel Club, Airplan, Jetsave, Poundstretcher, Intercontinental Navigation (Los Angeles only) and Slade. Some companies have yet to finalize their flight programmes.

People Express:

The US no-frills airline deserves a special mention. Currently restricted to five weekly Gatwick/New York (Newark) flights, People Express goes daily from April onwards. The airline operates differently from the rest and its low fare of £106 one-way (return is double) to New York carries no booking restrictions whatsoever.

Besides its New York service, People Express markets through fares from Gatwick via Newark to other destinations on its mainly East Coast network. Examples, all one-way: London to Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Norfolk, Pittsburgh and Washington... all £124. To Houston and the Florida cities of Sarasota and West Palm Beach the cost is £160.

If you want to start your holiday in style the airline offers a more luxurious Premium class for £312 one-way to New York – only a little more than the others charge for Economy class.

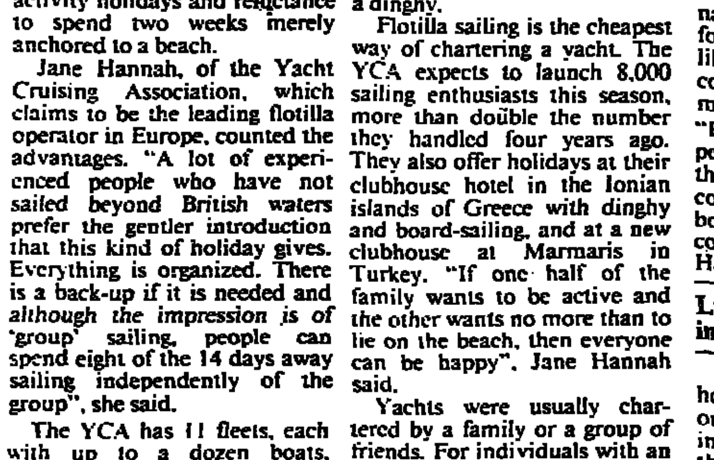
People Express fares apply all year round. Baggage check-in and meals on board cost extra.

Alex McWhirter

Agents: Slade 01-202 0111; Airplan 09322-46166; Jetsave 0342-27711; Travellers 01-637 5444; North American Travel 01-734 8100; Poundstretcher 0293-518060; Intercontinental Navigation 01-446 2626. People Express are on: 0293-31144.

Ronald Faux examines the growing attractions of flotilla sailing

Fleeting glimpses of wine-dark waters and exotic coasts



There may be a few Joshua Slocums who disapprove of flotilla sailing. Wandering in convoy across the wine-dark waters of the Aegean Sea with a fleet of die-stamped plastic boats might raise a few purist eyebrows, but the system is immensely practical.

Judging by the number of companies now offering flotilla packages and the growth of the larger operators, wholesale exploration of remote and exotic coastlines is increasingly appealing. The growth reflects the rising numbers interested in activity holidays and reluctance to spend two weeks merely anchored to a beach.

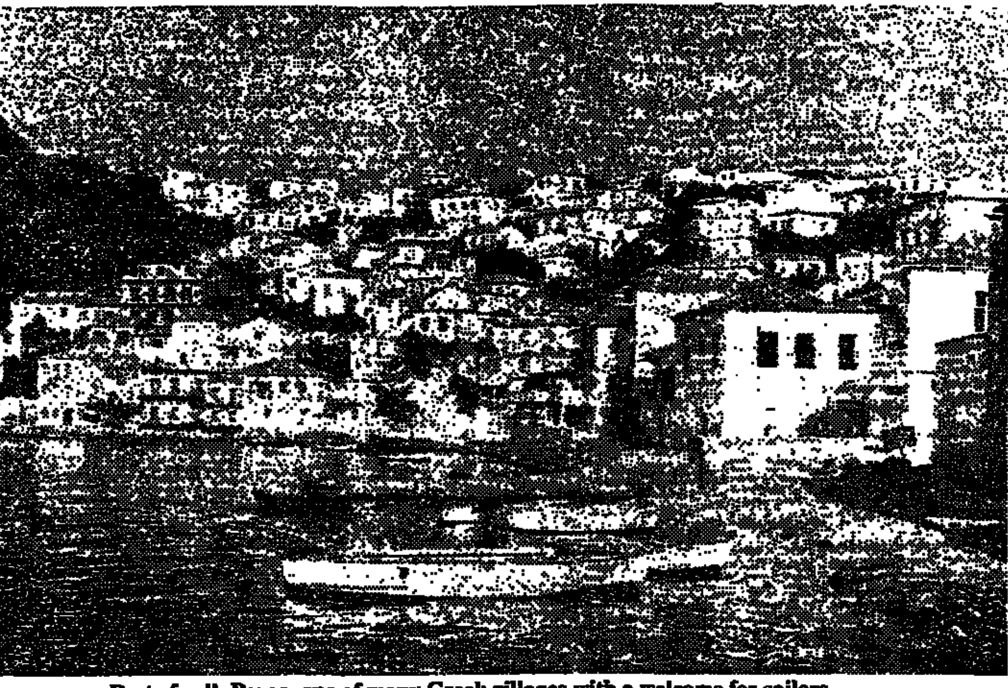
Jane Hannah, of the Yacht Cruising Association, which claims to be the leading flotilla operator in Europe, counted the advantages. "A lot of experienced people who have not sailed beyond British waters prefer the gentler introduction that this kind of holiday gives. Everything is organized. There is a back-up if it is needed and *although the impression is of* 'group' sailing, people can spend eight of the 14 days away sailing independently of the group", she said.

The YCA has 11 fleets, each with up to a dozen boats, operating on the Dalmatian coast of Yugoslavia, among the Greek islands and along the coast of Turkey – the latest arrival on the flotilla holiday scene. Here the climate is excellent, the winds are spankingly brisk and the cost of living is remarkably cheap.

Bonnie Stevens, of the Seven Seas Sailing Club, which operates on the Yugoslavian coast, said that many of her clients were experienced dinghy sailors who wanted to graduate to the command of a bigger keel boat. They might be overawed when first presented with 10 metres of ocean-going yacht, but the principles were identical and "things happened" much more slowly on a heavy yacht than in a dinghy.

Flotilla sailing is the cheapest way of chartering a yacht. The YCA expects to launch 8,000 sailing enthusiasts this season, more than double the number they handled four years ago. They also offer holidays at their clubhouse hotel in the Ionian islands of Greece with dinghy and board-sailing, and at a new clubhouse at Marmaris in Turkey. "If one half of the family wants to be active and the other wants no more than to lie on the beach, then everyone can be happy", Jane Hannah said.

Yachts were usually chartered by a family or a group of friends. For individuals with an inclination to sail but no one to sail with, the YCA's "Share a Yacht" scheme is an ingenious way of introducing strangers to the close confines of a sailing holiday. First they add their names, details, quirks and foibles to a register of clients of like mind. Then the clients contact one another or perhaps meet at a YCA party in London. "It works very well and a lot of people make their first bookings that way. We don't stick complete strangers together on a boat because that would be completely disastrous", Jane Hannah said.


Port of call: Parga, one of many Greek villages with a welcome for sailors

Lunch and a swim in a sheltered cove

The pattern of a flotilla holiday is a cruise in company on the longer stretches, following the pilot yacht which has three association staff on board – a skipper, a hostess and an engineer. They handle any problems that crop up in the fleet and full communication is always possible by VHF radio. An average day's sail will involve a passage lasting about five hours, *usually* with a stop for lunch and a swim in a cove.

The YCA draws a distinction between the waters around the Ionian and Saronic islands of Greece (where competent dinghy sailors will have no problems handling a larger craft) and the Lycian coast of Turkey, where the sailing legs are long, the waters more exposed, and the standards more demanding.

Seven Seas cruises range along the intricate coastline of Yugoslavia north of Split, and south to Dubrovnik. In the north there are innumerable small islands and sheltered inlets while in the south the waters are more open with larger islands. It is a varied coastline with a fascinating historical and archaeological past and a yatch gives just the right speed and perspective to take it all in, cruising between islands and stopping at ports where a quayside restaurant serves an excellent evening meal for less than £4, wine included.

Perhaps the most important feature of a charter or flotilla holiday is the standard of the sailing craft. Few things can mar an idyllic cruise more effectively than an engine that persistently refuses to work, halyards that break or sails that split in a stiff wind. The flotilla engineer is usually a man of great resource who can handle most normal cruises.

The YCA and the Seven Seas Sailing Club operate yachts that give both comfortable accommodation *and performance*. Seven Seas offer the Maxi 84, a 28ft yacht capable of holding four adults comfortably, and the Maxi 100, a 32-footer that sleeps six in comfort and has the advantage for a family of an aft cabin.

The YCA craft include a spacious 29-footer designed for Mediterranean cruising, a 28ft adaptation of the popular Mirage cruiser and its 26ft sister. The package includes flight, transfer and the first meal. A full fuel tank and cooking gas supply is included. Each boat has a dinghy and comes fully equipped. The pilot boat in each flotilla has a windsurfer and where appropriate individuals in the flotilla can break away and explore on their own, rejoining the others at a predetermined place and time.

Travel notes and a novice sailor's report on page 14

TRAVEL/3

A satisfied novice at the flotilla tiller

For a very keen sailor the success or failure of a flotilla sailing holiday in Greece depends entirely on the wind. For anyone else it is not that vital. We went in August when we were assured there would be plenty of wind. There was none. [illegible] covered at least 60 miles under motor. Although it would have been nice to have done more sailing, not one of us was disappointed by the holiday.

Our holiday was with Seascape. You can join a flotilla for the Lefkas cruise in a 32ft Saddler (sleeps six) or the Corfu cruise in a 27ft Jaguar (sleeps four adults). Or, if one of your party is an experienced offshore helmsman, you can charter either of the above and go "bareboating". We opted for two weeks with the Jaguar flotilla.

There were twelve boats in our flotilla and a lead boat with six crew competent to deal with all eventualities and to dispense advice ranging from which shops were best value to how to reef the mainsail and which knot to use to moor to the jetty. They were a happy lot – unobtrusive, helpful when needed, and extremely efficient when an electric storm hit our sleeping flotilla at 3am causing us to drag our anchors.

The Jaguar can be handled quite adequately by one experienced sailor with one inexperienced crew member. There are numerous safety devices on board and it takes a novice only a couple of days to grasp the basics of sailing.

One person from each boat is nominated skipper and attends daily briefings on board the lead boat where he/she is told the schedule for the day and landmarks to watch for, with information and gossip about the next port of call. Navigational experience is not necessary; common sense is. We cheerfully watched a boat (from another flotilla) go aground on a sandbank which we had been warned to avoid.

Although our first night was spent in an insufferably smelly port not far from the airport, the other moorings were attractive and interesting. We saw the searchlights of Albania, the mouth of the River Styx, quiet little harbours, and a jumping porpoise. The sail back to Corfu from Paxos was organized into a race; every boat took part.

Space below decks is limited and if there are two couples, one pair has to sleep in the fo'c's'le where the ceiling is only about 3ft above the bunk, which narrows to a point. It is rather like sleeping in a torpedo tube.

There is no opportunity for a bath for two weeks and showers have to be taken on deck with a shower-bag previously hotted up in the sun. But none of this is surprising on a sailing holiday. With a sense of humour and compatible companions, it is great fun.

Suki Fane



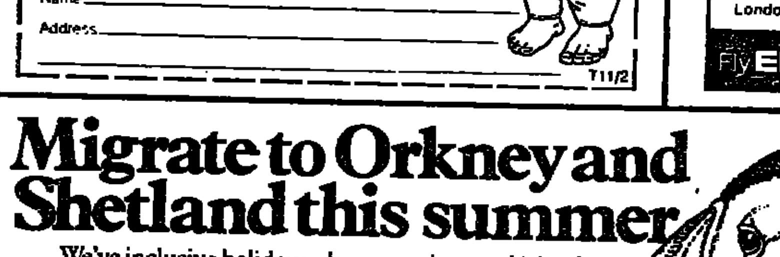
The YCA have worked out the average extra costs on a two-week cruise for food aboard and meals ashore at £62 per person in Turkey, £82 in Greece and £65 in Yugoslavia. Holiday costs depend on time of year between April and October, and range from £253 to £449 per person when four people share a 28ft boat and £293 and £489 on a 32-footer.
Seven Seas Sailing Club's inclusive price for a 28ft yacht shared by four is from £335 each low season to £475 high season.
Prices for Seascape flotilla sailing holidays range from £244 per person to £517 in high season.

Yacht Cruising Association, Old Stone House, Judges Terrace, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 1AQ (0342 31166).

Seven Seas Sailing Club, Rodmersham Green, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 0PU (0795 71142).

Seascape Sailing Holidays, 32 Cranbourn Street, London WC2 (01-836 4999).

Other flotilla operators based in Britain are:
Island Sailing Association, Northney Marina, Hayling Island, Hampshire (07016 66331).
Falcon Sailing, 190 Campden Hill Road, London W8 (01-727 0232).
Yachtours, 15 Needham Road, London W11 2RP (01-229 9983).
Club Mirage, Charfleet, Canvey Island, Essex (0268 696555).



REVIEW Paperbacks of the month

Timely resurrection of a joker with teeth

Mrs Ames by E. F. Benson (Hogarth Press, £3.95)
Paying Guest by E. F. Benson (Hogarth Press, £3.95)
The Spanish Temper by V. S. Pritchett (Hogarth Press, £3.95)

The scene is the Shakespearian fancy-dress ball in a small town in middle-class, middlebrow, very genteel England in 1912. Enter in succession four podgy middle-aged couples clandestinely in love of sorts with each other's partners, each couple having chosen to dress as Antony and Cleopatra. The waiter from the Crown Inn, dressed in a kind of white surplice and carrying a lantern in his hand, who might with equal reasonableness be supposed to be the Man in the Moon from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, or a gravedigger out of *Hamlet*, adds to the offence by shouting out such announcements as, "Antony and Cleopatra 10 years later".

It is one of the forgotten comic set pieces in English, written by a very funny man, Fred Benson, who has become unfashionable. The only advice that my grandfather ever gave me that has stuck in my memory was to read *Tristram Shandy* and Benson. *Mrs Ames* is *Madame Bovary* played for laughs. Benson was Wodehouse with teeth and sex.

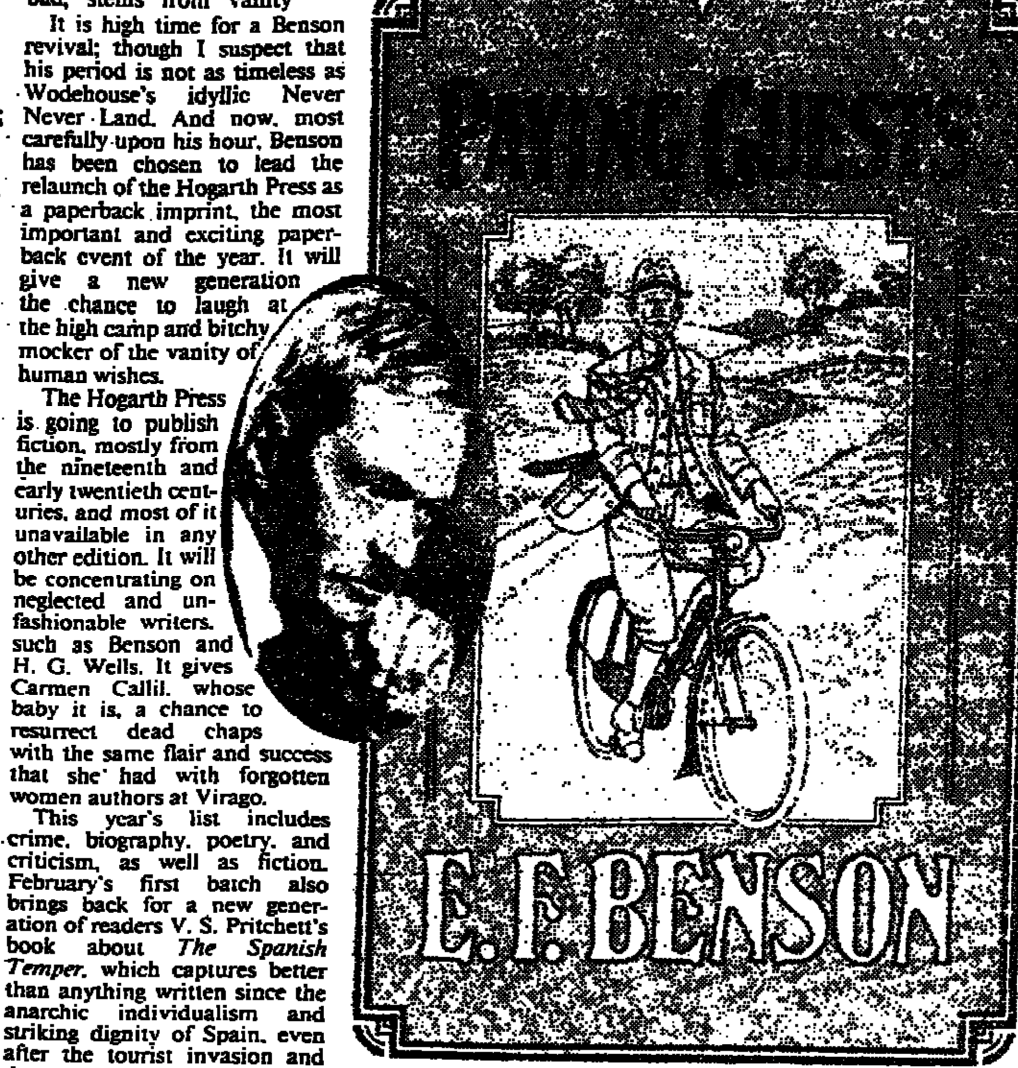
It is difficult to dislike any character in Wodehouse, not even the Efficient Baxter or one of the scalier aunts on the rampage. It is difficult to like anybody in Benson. He is the first writer since Thackeray in *Vanity Fair* to write a comedy of manners based on the belief that all human action, good or bad, stems from vanity

It is high time for a Benson revival; though I suspect that his period is not as timeless as Wodehouse's idyllic Never Never Land. And now, most carefully upon his hour, Benson has been chosen to lead the relaunch of the Hogarth Press as a paperback imprint, the most important and exciting paperback event of the year. It will give a new generation the chance to laugh at the high camp and bitchy mocker of the vanity of human wishes.

The Hogarth Press is going to publish fiction, mostly from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and most of it unavailable in any other edition. It will be concentrating on neglected and unfashionable writers, such as Benson and H. G. Wells. It gives Carmen Callil, whose baby it is, a chance to resurrect dead chaps with the same flair and success that she had with forgotten women authors at Virago.

This year's list includes crime, biography, poetry, and criticism, as well as fiction. February's first batch also brings back for a new generation of readers V. S. Pritchett's book about *The Spanish Temper*, which captures better than anything written since the anarchic individualism and striking dignity of Spain, even after the tourist invasion and the vast dormitory suburbs.

Philip Howard



Joyous revival: E. F. Benson (inset) and the Hogarth Press jacket for Paying Guests; the wolf motif was Virginia Woolf's idea

Scurrilous, scabrous and skilful

Shadow on the Grass by Simon Raven (Sphere £1.95)

Simon Raven's talent for writing fiction and his highly readable style are well recognized. Both are in strong evidence in this rumbustious autobiography.

Shadows on the Grass is a collection of anecdotes about the author's life at school, on the cricket field, in the army and at Cambridge University. It is prefaced with the somewhat enigmatic disclaimer that, although "essentially true", the narrative contains "minor alterations in circumstance" and that some of the facts "have been disguised, though not softened, by moral metaphor". This is understandable in view of the scurrility of some of the stories, but it does stretch the reader's credulity at times.

Who, for instance, could possibly believe that William Rees-Mogg, later to become Editor of *The Times*, once misused his position as umpire to dismiss more or less an entire cricket team because he had had a disagreement over Greek scholarship with the housemaster concerned?

On the other hand, who could not applaud what the author calls "The Bumper Bob Boothby Disaster of 1951", in which the outrageously self-important Bob (later Lord) Boothby spends a champagne-filled evening boasting about his fame, his membership of White's, his new suit and his new car... until one of his passengers vomits down the back of his neck?

I admit to being instinctively suspicious of stories remembered from schooldays, and my suspiciousness increased as I read each preposterous episode in Raven's saga of masturbation, drunkenness, cheating and promiscuity. There were times, also, when I grew tired of the snobbery and loutishness repeatedly displayed by the author and his friends.

Nevertheless, the stories he tells about Rees-Mogg, Boothby, James Prior, E. M. Forster, Peter May, J. R. Ackerley and others too numerous to mention are invariably entertaining and often hilarious.

Raven's account of a drinking match at Deolali Transit Camp in India between the present Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and "Spotty" Duvell is a masterpiece of comic writing which deserves comparison with A. G. Macdonell's cricket match in *England Their England* – or perhaps its scabrous tone would place it more happily alongside the very best of Tom Sharpe.

Much of the time, this is a deeply unserious book, and I am sure many readers, like myself, will find themselves laughing aloud. At the same time, few would not be moved by the poignant tale at the end of the book, from which its title appears to have been taken. It concerns Mark Watney, a brilliant young cricketer whose weakness for drink leads him to take his own life. He becomes a symbol of ephemeral beauty.

Shadows on the Grass is not just the idle memoirs of a sybarite: these are also the reflections of a perceptive and skilful writer.

Rupert Morris

Contradiction, collusion and controversy

Zionism in the Age of the Dictators by Lenni Brenner (Croom Helm, £9.95)

Who told a Berlin audience in March 1912 that "each country can absorb only a limited number of Jews, if she doesn't want disorders in her stomach. Germany already has too many Jews"?

No, not Adolf Hitler but Chaim Weizmann, later president of the World Zionist Organization and later still the first president of the state of Israel.

And where might you find the following assertion, originally composed in 1917 but republished as late as 1936: "The Jew is a caricature of a normal, natural human being, both physically and spiritually. As an individual in society he revolts and throws off the harness of social obligations, knows no order nor discipline"?

Not in *Der Stürmer* but in the organ of the Zionist youth organization, *Hashomer Hatzair*.

As the above quoted statements reveal, Zionism itself encouraged and exploited self-hatred in the Diaspora. It started from the assumption that anti-Semitism was inevitable and even in a sense justified so long as Jews were outside the land of Israel.

It is true that only an extreme lunatic fringe of Zionism went so far as to offer to join the war on Germany's side in 1941, in the hope of establishing "the historical Jewish state on a national and totalitarian basis, and bound by a treaty with the German Reich". Unfortunately this was the group which the present Prime Minister of Israel chose to join.

That fact gives an extra edge of topicality to what would in any case be a highly controversial study of the Zionist record in the heyday of European fascism by Lenni Brenner, an American Trotskyist writer who happens also to be Jewish. It is short (250 pages), crisp and carefully documented. Mr Brenner is able to cite numerous cases where Zionists collaborated with anti-Semitic regimes, including Hitler's; he is careful also to put on record the opposition to such policies within the Zionist movement.

In retrospect these activities have been defended as a distasteful but necessary expedient to save Jewish lives. But Brenner shows that most of the time this aim was secondary. The Zionist leaders wanted to help young, skilled and able-bodied Jews to emigrate to Palestine. They were never in the forefront of the struggle against fascism in Europe.

That in no way absolves the wartime Allies for their callous refusal to make any serious effort to save European Jewry. As Brenner says, "Britain must be condemned for abandoning the Jews of Europe"; but, "it is not for the Zionists to do it".

Edward Mortimer

Ironic illuminations of a continent's lost corner

Memoirs of an Anti-Semite by Gregor von Rezzori (Picador £2.50)

Once the power of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy stretched from the toe of Sicily to the far side of the Carpathians in Bukovina. Arnulf, the narrator of Gregor von Rezzori's "Novel in five stories" has contact with both extremities: despite his Italian lineage he is brought up in the far north-east of the empire, one of the remotest and least-known corners of Europe. And in this respect he seems to have much in common with von Rezzori himself.

Arnulf is born Austrian but between the two world wars, as the Bukovina changes hands, becomes Romanian and in the process, he wryly remarks, a second-class citizen. If he had been fool enough to stay on into the late 1940s he would have had Russian nationality, as part of Bukovina was sliced away from Romania and his native town of Cernauti was renamed Czernowitz. And had his father, sent at the beginning of the century to guard one of the outposts of empire against the hordes from the east, still been alive then, he would have had to declare the battle lost.

On the surface these stories are indeed the memoirs of an anti-Semite, a man brought up, in common with many members of the ruling classes in that part of the world, to despise the Jews and their ghettos. None the less von Rezzori's descriptions are ever ironic and detached, with Arnulf generally coming off second best in his Jewish encounters. It matters not whether it is a boyhood friendship with a child far more precocious and accomplished than he, or a seduction in Bucharest by a raven-haired Jewess, a Black Widow spinning a web to capture a gentile, much to the disgust of her fellow shopkeepers.

Underneath the irony – and it is worth recalling that much of the literature from this area of eastern Europe reaching English translation is from Jewish sources – is a sense of a continent, and especially that part of it on the edge of Asia, undergoing total change. In Bucharest, von Rezzori rightly says, you can smell Asia in the dust and see it in the lavender-coloured sunsets. But the last traces of the Hapsburgs have almost been obliterated. In the final story "Pravda" ("Truth"), Arnulf sardonically reflects, as he supplies trashy stories for Cinecittà's B-pictures in Rome, that he is as much a displaced person as his father was in Bukovina.

The translation of the first two stories (from the German) is clumsy and shot with Americanisms as incongruous as they are ugly. But persevere. The English later becomes Rezzori's and with it arrives great readability. A curious and wise book about a corner of Europe, little trodden by either authors or tourists.

John Higgins

IN THE GARDEN

Rosy future for plants forced to take cuts

One of the first jobs to be done as soon as the weather begins to improve, from about now onwards, is pruning the "garden roses". (This heading does not include the species roses, which need a different form of pruning altogether.)

Pruning takes time and should not be tackled without the right equipment. Firstly, you will need strong gloves, preferably leather, which will repel thorns but are also supple enough to allow reasonable hand movement. Next, a good pair of heavy-duty secateurs.

Should the roses have a few years' growth on them, there will be a number of branches close to the base which will be too thick for most secateurs. This is where the two-handed pruner comes in; handles about a foot long enable the bringing to bear of sufficient pressure to cut through even dead snags. I also like to take a pruning saw with me; this should thin to a point so that it can be used in the centre of the bush, where it will come in useful for any unduly tough shoots. Finally, a wheelbarrow at hand to collect the prunings will save unnecessary handling of prickles.

Garden roses flower on wood made during the current season. Pruning is therefore a matter of removing the flowering shoots made last year to allow space for the new season's branches. Always bear in mind that the ideal rose bush has an open centre with its shoots growing to give some resemblance to a vase.

The first step is to remove all dead shoots. Most roses show dead snags close to the base of the bush; cut these out. Next remove thin, weakly or diseased branches, making sure you cut flush with the parent branch. Diseased shoots do not have to be removed entirely; if the shoot is needed to retain a decent shape to the bush cut back to sound healthy wood.

Next deal with crossing branches, that is, branches which grow from one side of the plant to the other across the centre. Cut these out flush with the parent branch; this is an important cut, as you must try to make sure there are no dormant buds close to the base of the shoot.

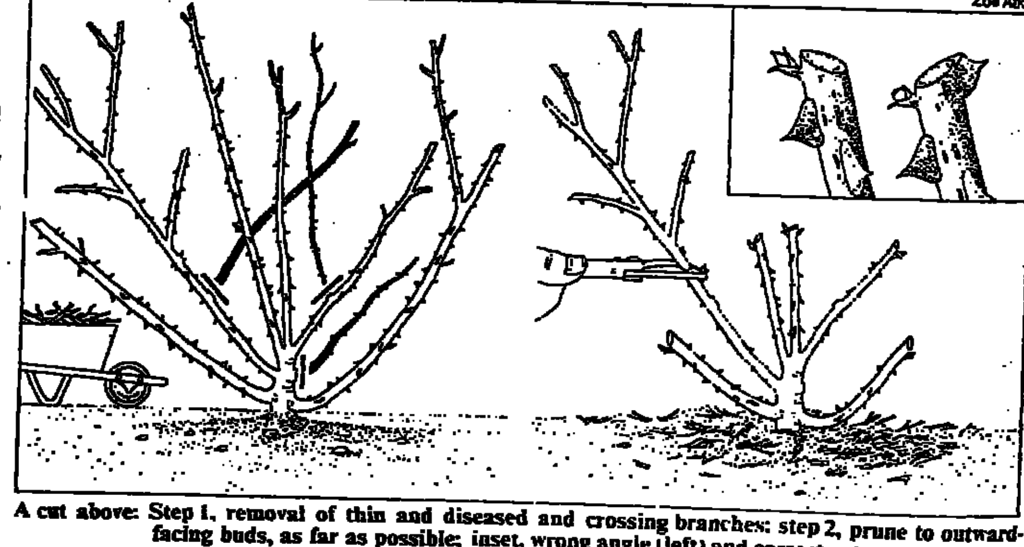
The bush is now ready for pruning. Look carefully at a rose branch and you will see a number of raised lumps along it. These are buds, and a cut above any bud induces it to come into life. The resultant shoot will break the way the bud is facing. So bearing in mind the desideratum of an open-centred bush, try, as far as possible to make all cuts with the bud facing away from the centre of the bush.

Each pruning cut should be made directly above the bud. Cut from the opposite side, sloping down towards the bud. The cut must be a clean one. Make sure you do not tear the wood, and never twist the secateurs from side to side as this could cause bruising.

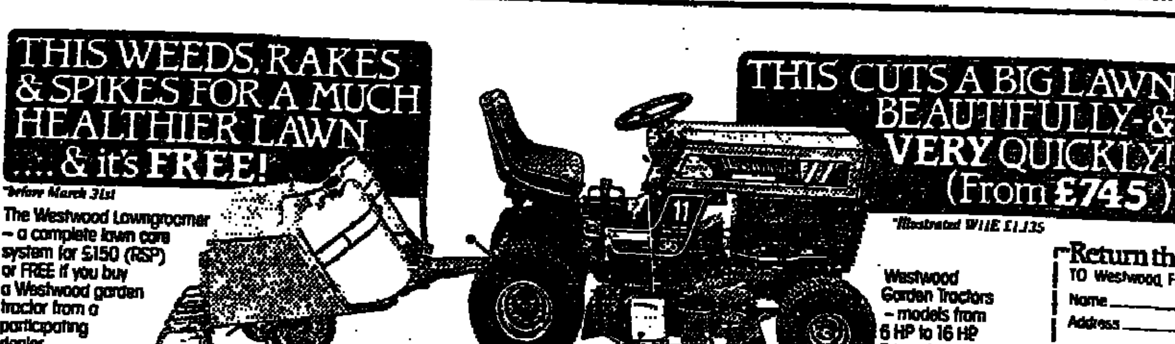
Prune when you see signs of the buds swelling but before growths have made too much progress. The more vigorous the plant, the more lightly it can be pruned: thin, weakly plants should be hard pruned. The lighter the pruning the earlier the bush will flower. As a rule, vigorous bushes should be pruned to about 10 buds from the base and medium roses to about six buds from the base. As for thin, weakly plants, when you think you have pruned hard enough take off another inch.

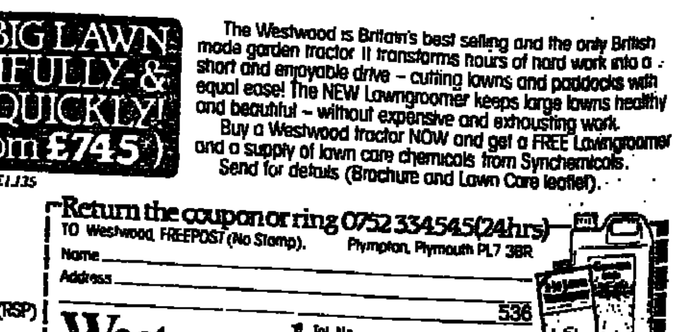
Feeding should be carried out after pruning, preferably with farmyard manure.

Ashley Stephenson



A cut above: Step 1, removal of thin and diseased and crossing branches; step 2, prune to outward-facing buds, as far as possible; inset, wrong angle (left) and correct cut





هكذا من الأصل

VALUES/**Lynn Barnett** on modern ways of keeping clean

Join the jet set for a healthy way of life

To make the most of today's bathrooms you need to be a paradoxical mix of sybarite and health freak. You also need a healthy bank balance.

Hydrotherapy or water massage baths are becoming very popular. These baths have long been used to treat muscle injuries and rheumatoid arthritis but the massaging effect, produced by forcing air into the water to create bubbles which burst on impact with your body, has a soothing, relaxing action which also helps to smooth away tension. It helps blood circulation too and, if used regularly, it is said to tone flabby muscles.

There are two types, whirlpool baths and air-jet baths. Whirlpool baths – their best-known trade name is the Jacuzzi – extract water from the bath by an electric pump. This water is passed round outside the bath, through pipes or flexible tubing, and reintroduced mixed with air through nozzles in the sides of the bath.

Air-jet baths employ lots of small jets in the floor of the bath through which air alone is pumped. This gives more of a floating sensation. With both types the "works" are hidden beneath panels.

The price range for both types of bath is wide: the smallest Jacuzzi whirlpool bath, the Cara, which measures 1,524mm by 863mm, costs from £2,185.

The best selection of Jacuzzis can be seen and tried at the Jacuzzi Whirlpool Bath and Spa Centre, 157-158 Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-730 5835).

Most good bathroom showrooms will be able to show you a whirlpool bath. Well-known manufacturers such as Twyfords and Ideal-Standard offer a system as an optional extra. Factory-fitted and tested, it adds about £958 to Twyford's Astral, Debut and Balmoral baths or about £575 to one of eight baths by Ideal-Standard.

Their new system, Whirlpool 2000, has two unique safety features – automatic cut-out of the pump if there is insufficient water in the bath or if the water is not circulating due to a blockage. It also self-drains – pump and pipework too – so that the whole system remains clean and hygienic.

The smallest bath to which Ideal-Standard fit their whirlpool system, the Tulip 1,700mm, costs from £1,108 complete.

Whirlpool conversions

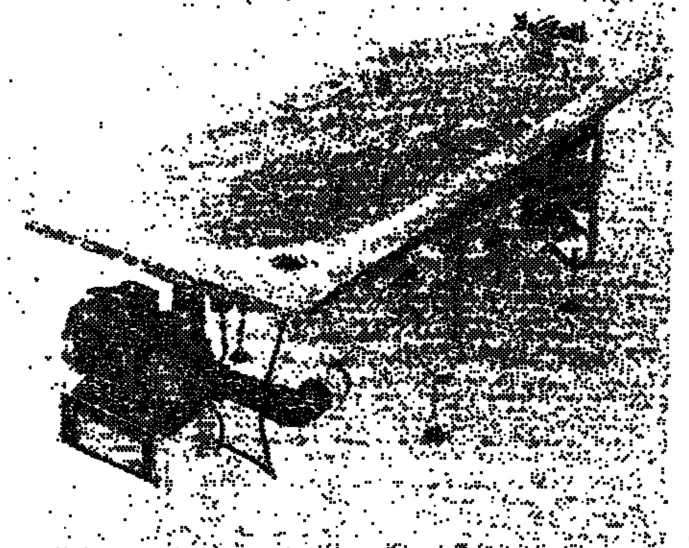
A less expensive alternative is to see if your existing bath can be converted to a whirlpool system. It is usually a relatively simple job to convert a plastic bath but cast iron or pressed steel baths can cause some problems and conversion may not be advisable.

Nordic Sauna offer a range of conversion kits starting with their Norjet, which includes six whirlpool jets, for less than £600. Jacuzzi can also convert your bath, and the price, including fitting and testing, is from £920 for a three-jet system in a plastic bath. There is an extra charge for delivery and also for converting cast iron and pressed steel baths.

Air-jet baths as well as Jacuzzis and whirlpool systems can be seen at Max Pike's Bathroom Shop and Whirlpool Bath Centre at 4 Eccleston Street, London SW1 (01-730 7216). The Balneotherapy air-jet bath, which has four speeds and a heater to keep the water at a constant temperature, costs £2,875. The French Grandform Hydrotherapy bath, imported by Waitamata, costs from £1,744; it includes an ozone generator which automatically injects ozonized air into the water at the beginning and end of the bath.

Baths which include both the whirlpool and air-jet systems are also available. The Champagne hydromassage system which includes 16 air-jets and three Jacuzzi nozzles costs £2,185 from Max Pike's, while P. G. Spa and Sauna's Lacrospa range of baths gives a choice of bath shapes: two rectangular at £1,549 and £1,569 and the popular corner bath at £1,660.

Should you need an extra five minutes in bed before your refreshing bath, the Autotub (from £683.10 from Max Pike's) allows you to fill your bath automatically from your bedside. Micro-sensors turn off the water when it reaches the required level and a green light tells you it is ready.



The works: One of Ideal-Standard's Whirlpool 2000 baths with panels removed to show the elaborate system beneath

Massage showers

If this all sounds a little too hedonistic you may prefer to relieve the pressures of your day with a massage shower. The Nordic Jetronic Impulse shower can be wall-mounted within a shower cubicle or over a bath and it is supplied with either two or four vertical spray tubes in addition to the overhead and hand showers. The thermostatically controlled hot water flow is interspersed with cold water for a really invigorating shower. it costs about £964.

The Aqualisa Aquajet includes an overhead shower plus two body jets which can be adjusted to give anything from a fine, gentle spray to a pulsating water massage. Powered by water pressure rather than electricity, the twin jet body massage unit moves constantly up and down the central column cleansing and refreshing the whole body. From Max Pike's, it costs from £732.55.

Also from Max Pike's is the Shower Power system. As well as the overhead shower, "rain bars" are fitted to the side of the shower cubicle, giving a complete, overall shower. It costs from £632.50.

If these types of shower prove too expensive, take a look at an ordinary modern shower. The greatest improvements are to be found on the instantaneous electric showers. Low-water-pressure systems in the UK have never been conducive to a forceful, invigorating shower, but increased heater rating – a number now have 7 or 8 kW heaters – help to give a better water flow and a stronger spray, while both improved temperature and pressure stabilizing make these showers more efficient and safe to use.

Names to look for are Heatrae Sadia, Gainsborough, Santon, Aquatron, Russell Hobbs and Walker Crosweller, and you can expect to pay from about £75 for a basic instantaneous shower to about £150 for sophisticated models which could be microchip controlled. Fixing is extra.

On tap

Advanced tap design has improved their looks and their efficiency. Ceramic discs rather than washers which ensure minimal maintenance are used on Ideal-Standard's Dualux and Monolux ranges while the single-lever mixer taps, popular on the Continent, have been specially designed by Tantofex for UK low-water-pressure systems.

If you go for the nostalgic look in taps, Czech & Speake offer a good range of traditional brass and porcelain taps and an Edwardian range finished in black chrome, much favoured by architects and designers.

Getting it together

Recently, a number of kitchen unit manufacturers – Poggenpohl and Xey, for example – have turned their sights on the bathroom, bringing their fitted-cupboard expertise to what has been a sadly neglected area. Bosch is the latest manufacturer to do so with six designs.

The Italians, also offer stylish units: The Mauri System units are moulded from a resin impregnated material in a range of 22 colours. Various trims and co-ordinating ceramic tiles are also available.

Finishing touches

Ceramic tiling is one of the most durable and popular finishes for modern bathrooms. Prices can vary from a few pounds to well over £30 a square metre. British manufacturers such as Maws and Pilkington are introducing modern designs to rival the Continental imports, but ceramic tiles from the Continent, brought in by such companies and Bernard J. Arnull and Langley of London, have something special – style.

An alternative wall covering much in demand by interior designers is laminate panels. Formica's Design Concepts range – one of their favourites – is available in five colours – white, "diamond", black, sandstone, ruby and "Sarum" grey. Mirror-finish reflective areas contrast with matt in two of the designs. Maxigraph, a symmetric grid, and Stripe. Disc design is all matt consisting of geometrically set raised roundels 3mm in diameter.

Fighting fit

No 1980s bathroom can be called complete without an exercise machine. Cycles, which can cost from £85 for a simple model to around £2,000 for a computerized one, and rowing machines, a little cheaper at £110 to £175, are the most popular large pieces of equipment, while dumb bells and weights cost only a few pounds. One of the best displays of exercise equipment can be found at Olympic Way in Harrods.

Finally for those to whom money is no object, consider having your own Environment enclosure. Environment provides a synthesis of a natural if exotic environment – Baja sun followed by tropical rain, jungle steam, spring showers and Chinook winds all at the touch of a button. From Max Pike's, price from £12,075, what could be better to come home to after a long day at the office?

All prices given include VAT. Should the equipment form part of a new installation, it may be zero-rated, if it is installed by the supplying contractor.

Tomorrow's bathroom

David Hart

(1) Jacuzzi Gemini bath, 1.828m diameter by 584mm deep, £2,375, from the Jacuzzi Whirlpool Bath and Spa Centre, 157-158 Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-730 5835).

(2) (3) and (4) Michelangelo back to wall lavatory, from £376; back to wall bidet, from £167; detail of Dualux bidet mixer taps with ceramic disc valves, from £75. All by Ideal-Standard, from showrooms.

(5) Nordic Pentaglass three-sided shower enclosure, from about £380, details of stockists from Nordic Saunas, Nordic House, 31-33 Lesbourne Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7JS (07372 49451).

(6) Aqualisa Aquajet massage shower, from £732.55 from Max Pike's Bathroom Shop and Whirlpool Bath Centre, 4 Eccleston Street, London SW1 (01-730 7216).

(7) and (8) Mauri System bathroom unit which co-ordinates with ceramic wall tiles in seven sizes and gloss, satin and matt finishes, from £24.15sq m; details from Jacuzzi Whirlpool Bath and Spa Centre.

(9) and (10) Puch Tunturi Ergometer exercise bicycle, £225; Puch Tunturi pulse meter, £89; from Olympic Way, Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (01-730 1234).

ST VALENTINE'S DAY

Hearts set on recipes for romance

♡ Never mind the music, get on with the meal: for the food of love is, quite simply, food. Or so countless restaurateurs evidently believe, since they have gone to great lengths to devise their own exotic Valentine's Day menus in the hope of enticing lovers through their doors on Tuesday. This is my choice selection of places for the gourmet with a taste for romance.

At the **Dorchester**, the menu has been prepared by Anton Mosimann, one of the great culinary artists. It will be served in the Grill Room at lunchtime and in the evening. Choose from Sweetheart's Salad, a mixture of warm artichoke hearts, Stilton cheese and quail, or fillet of sole St Valentine, which has a seafood sauce; fillets of veal Cupid, in a Madeira, cream and mushroom sauce, or grilled breast of duck Sara, with passion fruit and honey-glazed figs; Lover's Tuille Cup, a delicate sugar biscuit filled with fresh fruit and raspberry sauce, or Coconut Kisses, coconut biscuits sandwiched together with a light chocolate sauce.

Edward Hari, the Swiss chef at the **Inn on the Park**, has prepared a splendid five-course menu for their Four Seasons Restaurant. It comprises Petite Salade Fantaisie, a winter salad with smoked quail and quail's eggs; royalle de coquille St Jacques, which is a purée of scallops with a white wine sauce; mignon of boeuf au jus de truffes – fillet of beef with a truffle sauce; fruits de jour – a fresh berry pudding with a blueberry sauce; coffee and petit fours.

Dans, a light and airy restaurant in Chelsea, is offering an extensive menu concocted by their chief chef Tom Cheeseman (formerly of the Dorchester). You could choose from: Venus, a spinach mousse with tomato coulis, or Ménage à Trois, three beignets (fritters) of cheese with a mustard sauce; Lover's Rendezvouz, soul and scallops in a pernod and cream sauce, or Lady Chatterley, noisettes of venison in a port sauce; Between the Sheets, mille-feuilles with oranges, cream and Grand Marnier, or Tropical Desire, fresh pineapple with passion fruit and Kirsch sorbet.

San Carlo is a spacious Italian restaurant in north London which is serving an excellent four-course menu: buttariga a caglio, a Sardinian delicacy of dried grey mullet roe; agnolotti tipo Valentino con tartufi, a piquant pasta dish flavoured with sheep's cheese; medaglioni Lucrezia Borgia, medallions of beef with truffles, mushrooms and Parmesan cheese; Tirami Su (which literally means pick me up), a light creamy dessert.

Outside London there is **Hookstead House**, near Ashford, Kent. This small and friendly fifteenth-century restaurant, set in three acres of land, is run by Tom and Julia Atkinson, a young couple, who will arrange for special flowers to be on your table, and have two rooms with four-poster beds if you wish to stay the night. The choices for the three courses include: the Corpulent Cupid, an oyster dish, or Coquette Caviare; Napoleon's Luck, duck in a Grand Marnier sauce, or the Blushing Turbot, in a red wine sauce; soufflé Cassanova, or Adonis's Passion, meringue with a sorbet centre.

If you want to indulge a whim for a celebratory lunchtime drink, Harrods cocktail bar will be offering a special Cupid's Bow cocktail for £2.50.

Mary Wilson

The Dorchester, Park Lane, London W1 (629 8888). £15.50 a head including VAT, service and coffee.

Inn on the Park, Hamilton Place, London W1 (499 0888). £22.50 a head including a glass of champagne, VAT and service. A different lunchtime menu with choices for hors d'oeuvres and main courses is £13.50.

Dans, 119 Sydney Street, London SW3 (352 2718). £14 a head including VAT and unlimited coffee.

San Carlo, 2 Highgate High Street, London N6 (340 5823). £15 a head including a bottle of wine for two, VAT, service and coffee.

Hookstead House, High Halden, near Ashford, Kent (023385 612). £11.50 a head including VAT and coffee. Rooms with private bathroom and full English breakfast are £30 a night.

Say it with uglis

Jill Feld

♡ Feeling fruity? Telefruit have two ways of sending a tasty message to your Valentine – the "passion box" or the "ugli pack".
The first, for serious lovers, contains eight specially graded passion fruits with recipes and costs £4.95 including p & p. The second, for joky suitors (better make sure she has a sense of humour too), has 6 kilos of ugli fruit with instructions and costs £16.50 including p & p. Both have been specially gift wrapped.
Orders with cheques can be placed personally at Telefruit, 1103 Finchley Road, Temple Fortune, London NW11 or can be telephoned and paid by Access, until noon Feb 13. (01-458 7211).

Our glass

♡ Dishy idea from Unicorn Glass Workshop – a tiny dish hand-painted with flowers and pierced with hearts (below). It is 9cm across, with a 5cm space for a name or short message to order. £3, plus 75p for the name from Unicorn Glass workshop, Tooses Farm, Stoke St Michael, Bath BA3 5JJ. Tel: Oakhill (0749) 840654. Orders telephoned today can be rushed through for Feb 14.



Pin passion

♡ Getting stuck on you, the medieval way. The original lover's brooch was in gold set with rubies and sapphires. The British Museum's replica is in gold on bronze with simulated stones (above) but with the original message in medieval French on the back – *Io sui ici en lui dami: Amo.* I am here in place of the friend I love. £16.50 from the British Museum Shop, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-636 1555).

Melting hearts

♡ Sweet thoughts for last-minute lovers – Bendicks praline-filled milk chocolate hearts 35p, Ackermans red hearts 50x £3.99, plain chocolate champagne bottle filled with Charbonnel and Walker assortment £11.49. Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1.

Teagetherness

♡ Have a heart-to-heart drink by putting your teapot on a Calman Tea for Two tile stand. £2.50 from the Cartoon Gallery, 83 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1 (01-242 5335).

Beryl Downing

DRINK

Call for red revolution and change in the white house

How many times have you sat down in some conveniently situated restaurant to a dreary carafe of house wine that comes, according to the wine waiter, "Oh, you know, from somewhere in France" and wondered why you bothered? Having spent the past week sampling numerous such carafes whose contents ranged from the dull to the downright disgusting, I expect your answer will be "once too often". Restaurants in the big hotels appear to be the worst offenders with the Ritz hitting rock-bottom on the evening I was there, having no red house wine at all and only an evil white that neither myself nor my guest could drink.

What is especially sad about this is that, if we want to keep the costs of eating out down, most of us have no alternative but to drink the *vin de la* [illegible] something about it, I have chosen as my wines for February, several good, inexpensive matching pairs.

Ironically my research into house wines was prompted not by tasting a bad house white and red, but by the experience of a really good pair. The occasion was the opening of the Café Pelican, a new Parisian-style brasserie in St Martin's Lane, London WC2; the wines that impressed me so much were called Moillard Blanc and Moillard Rouge. Quite by chance, two days later, I happened to sample them again at a tasting organized by Lawlers, a wholesale wine merchant based in Dorking; that convinced me that I had a real February find.

Although Moillard are a big Nuits Saint Georges firm of *négociants* and growers, their Rouge and Blanc have little to [illegible]



strongly in its rich, green, almost buttery bouquet which is backed up by a lively, full, lemony taste. The Moillard Rouge at 12.5° is even better; a predominantly Syrah wine from the Rhône with a rich purple colour and smoky-fruity taste.

Most French vin de table wines are around 11° and the extra degree or so that this pair [illegible] and very good value for money at £2.85 each (and only £3.95 at the Café Pelican). So far, however, Lawlers have managed to sell the pair into only one retail wine merchant – Jeffery Phillips, at 22 Station Street, Lymington, Hampshire. When buying a case of any such modestly priced wines it is worth noting whether the bottle contains 70cl or 75cl because a dozen of the slightly more expensive 75cl bottle gives you 60cl more wine, or almost a full bottle.

Two other 75cl French vin de table wines that are worth laying in supplies of this month (especially because there is a 30p discount on each) are Henri Maire's Bonchalaz red and white (Cullens, £2.15). Henri Maire is one of the Jura's biggest growers and merchants and, like the Moillard pair, his pungent, fruity white and light, fruity Bonchalaz red have been [illegible] impress stuffy friends and relatives.

Good house wines do not have to be French, and two that the restaurant trade would do well to get to know are the Marqués de Cáceres red and white riojas. The white is widely acknowledged to be one of the best, young, fragrant, cold-fermentation white riojas there is, and the latest vintage is the 1982. This is an amazingly lively, fresh, green wine with a pleasing grapefruit aspect to it (Haynes, Hanson & Clarke, 36 Kensington Church Street, London W8, £3.12; Les Amis du Vin, London W12, W1 and WC2, £3.15.) The 1978 Marqués de Cáceres red (Oddbins, £2.86; Haynes, Hanson & Clarke, £3.34) boasts a lovely, warm, spicy, oaky taste with none of that excessive oakiness that some of the red riojas have. Not surprising, perhaps, as the Marqus de Cáceres *bodega* is

PREVIEW Theatre

Sparks fly as Joan takes control of a shifting world

Joan of Arc spent just over two years in the public eye, from 1429, when she led the French to victory over the English at Orleans, until 1431 when she was burnt at the stake as a witch. She was then 19 years old.

When Joan appeared as a character in Shakespeare's *Henry VI Part One* she was described as a "trull", a "witch" and "foul fiend of France". It was another two centuries before the view of her changed and she became a heroine, the saviour of France. This was the view adopted by George Bernard Shaw, whose *Saint Joan* opens at the National Theatre on Thursday.

Some years before the play was published in 1923, Shaw wrote to Mrs Patrick Campbell: "English literature must be saved (by an Irishman as usual) from the disgrace of having nothing to show concerning Joan except the piffling libel in *Henry VI*".

The new production at the Olivier Theatre is directed by Ronald Eyre and has Frances de la Tour in the title part. It is one of the longest and most challenging roles for an actress, who has to be on stage for nearly the whole of the play, and is therefore not an easy part to cast.

"Frances is one of only a handful of actresses who could play the part", Eyre says. "Although Joan is supposed to be 19, she suffers from the 'Juliet' problem – an actress of the correct age is unlikely to be able technically to do the part. So she is always likely to be older."

Frances de la Tour came to the production very keen to play Joan but quite open about how the role should be played. Eyre says of her: "Frances is a woman of high intelligence and strong opinions, and might naturally want to confront a situation. Joan takes a different course, not seeking confrontation."

Eyre regards *Saint Joan* as "an enormous" play, very rich, and with more depth than people might think. It is, of course, a wordy play. However, he denies that it is static. "It is about a shifting world, and the production has to reflect that. But it is a play which you have to approach boldly. If you have any fear, it will punish you, and just to recite the lines would leave it passionless, whereas it is a passionate play."

Eyre sees himself as very cautious in his choice of plays to direct. He says no, when other directors say yes. "A spark has got to go from me to the text or from the text to me, and that spark enables me to believe in what I am doing and to comfort me when things go wrong."

In *Saint Joan*, "an Everest of a play", he says, Joan is the catalyst for all that happens. She is the only woman, surrounded by a great variety of male helplessness. She, a woman, sorts out the men; and without emphasizing the fact too much, this is a theme which readily strikes a contemporary chord.

Ronald Eyre puts it more subtly: "Any play, if it is a decent play, will reflect different rays at different times. Plays come in and out of focus."

In his preface to the play, Shaw wrote: "There are no villains in the piece. Crime, like disease, is not interesting. It is what men do at their best, with good intentions, and what normal men and women find that they must and will do in spite of their intentions, that really concern us."

Christopher Warman

Saint Joan previews at the Oliver Theatre (928 2252) tonight, Mon, Tues, Wed at 7.15pm. Opens Thurs at 7pm. Fri at 7.15pm. Continues in repertory.



St Joan: Past . . .

. . . and present: Frances de la Tour – "sorting out the men"

Critics' choice

THE BIKO INQUEST
Riverside Studios (738 3354)
Until Mar 4, Tues-Sun at 8pm
This cool and scrupulous staged version of the investigation following the black South African leader Steve Biko's death in custody is the first fruit of a new British actors' company including Albert Finney (as the questioning counsel), Michael Gough, Michael Aldridge and Edward Hardwicke.

THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY
The Pit (628 8795/638 8891)
Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory with Molière by Mikhail Bulgakov (Today at 2pm and 7.30pm) and Lear by Edward Bond (Fri at 7.30pm)
Taking a rare Jacobean comedy as its starting point, Nicholas Wright's tale of innocent and fleshly love in turn-of-the-century Transvaal has a highly original flavour and provides Sara Kestelman and Sinead Cusack with two splendidly extravagant roles.

HAY FEVER
Queen's (734 1166)
Until April 14, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Noël Coward's 1920s comedy about a theatrical family and their mixed bag of persecuted house guests remains hilarious after any number of revivals, and Penelope Keith takes to the leading lady's part as though to the bad manners born.

LEAR
The Pit (628 8795/638 8891)
Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with The Custom of the Country and Molière by Mikhail Bulgakov (today at 2pm and 7.30pm)
Edward Bond's grim prophetic fantasy on themes from *King Lear* is even more compelling in this close-quarters studio setting. Squeamish viewers need a torture warning: otherwise Bob Peck and the cast promise a provocative, rewarding experience.

LUCKY BAG
Ambassadors (836 1171)
Opens Mon at 7pm. Until Feb 25, Mon-Sat at 8pm
Transferring from the King's Head, Victoria Wood's new show brings an exuberant solo performance and some brilliantly incisive cabaret songs to brighten the West End.

MASTER CLASS
Old Vic (928 7616)
Until Feb 25, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 4pm and 7.45pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm
Stalin's 1948 pressure session with composers Prokofiev and Shostakovich gives David Pownall the setting for an alarming yet sometimes horribly funny drama, full of food for thought on art and politics and the relation between them. Timothy West's fearsome Stalin is a complex study on the grand scale.

MAYDAYS
Barbican (628 8795/8891)
Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory with The Tempest and Much Ado About Nothing
Stretching from 1945 to the present, David Edgar's vast chronicle play probes the British Left's loss of direction and watches two characters changing political colour from red to blue. Long, often difficult and verbose for non-aficionados of socialist theory; but ambitious, complex and dramatically challenging at its best. With Antony Sher, John Shrapnel and Bob Peck.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)
Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with The Tempest and Maydays
Absolutely not to be missed, Terry Hands's production is a sheer delight and the outstanding success of the Royal Shakespeare Company's current Barbican season. Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack make a Benedick and Beatrice of exceptional wit, intelligence and charm.

NIGHTSHADE
King's Head (226 1916)
Mon-Sat at 7.45pm (dinner from 6.45pm)
Stewart Parker's likable surreal comedy makes something funny, touching and intellectually rich from some highly original elements: the private sorrow of an undertaker who does conjuring tricks, a disappearing woman, a frustrated headmistress, a waggish bishop and a talking corpse.

NOISES OFF
Savoy (836 8888)
Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
After two years in London, Michael Frayn's farce of backstage mishaps and misbehaviour during a ghastly rep-fodder sex comedy is still wildly funny. Amanda Barrie excels herself as the veteran character charlady.

PACK OF LIES
Lyric (437 3686)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Hugh Whitemore's powerful study of a decent couple whose quiet suburban life is destroyed by a Kroger-style spy case. Judi Dench and Michael Williams find impressively tragic performances in the most humdrum surroundings.

RENTS
Lyric, Hammersmith (741 2311)
Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm
First seen at Hammersmith two years ago, Michael Wilcox's play (now directed by William Gaskill) looks at part-time rent boys in Edinburgh and their friends, and finds material for a play full of understanding, charm and raw wit.

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL
Duke of York's (836 5122)
Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Wed and Sat at 3pm
John Barton's handsome and intelligent production has Donald Sinden and Beryl Reid in their broadest comic vein.

THE TEMPEST
Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)
Today at 2pm and 7.30pm. In repertory with Much Ado About Nothing and Maydays
Derek Jacobi's youngish vulnerable Prospero may be a departure from tradition, but Ron Daniels's highly enjoyable production gives full weight to the magic, comedy, near tragedy and spectacle in this difficult play.

Out of Town

BELFAST: Lyric Players (0232 66081). Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw. Final performance today at 8pm
Shaw's most popular play, and the basis for the musical *My Fair Lady*: Professor Higgins changes the life of an illiterate girl by altering her speech and introducing her to society.
Cider with Rosie by Laurie Lee. Preview on Tues at 8pm, opens Wed at 8pm. Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm
Pleasing account of growing up in a farming community.

BRISTOL: New Vic (0272 24388). A Doll's House by Henrick Ibsen. Until Mar 10, Mon-Wed (not Mar 5) at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm
New production of an Ibsen play regarded by his contemporaries as subversive and still powerfully persuasive on the theme of personal fulfilment and determination.

BROMLEY: Churchill (460 6677). Ballerina by Arne Skouen. Until Feb 25, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm; matinées Feb 23 at 2.30pm, today and Feb 25 at 4.30pm
Dorothy Tutin and Aubrey Woods as the parents of an emotionally disturbed girl with whom the mother can communicate only throught the language of dance. Peter Coe directs this British premiere of a Norwegian play.

CAMBRIDGE: Arts (0223 352000). The Dance of Death by August Strindberg. Final performances today at 4.30pm and 8pm
Oxford Playhouse Company production of Ted Whitehead's adaptation of Strindberg's bitter masterpiece of marital hatred and strife.
***Funny Peculiar* by Mike Stott. Opens Mon at 8pm. Until Feb 18, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinée Sat at 4.30pm**
"Adult" comedy which ran for two and a half years in the West End.

EXETER: Northcott (0392 54853). Psyche by Paul Arnott, Biko by Julian Pullan, today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Double bill of plays which will be presented at Edinburgh later this year. The first is about a psychologist visiting Freud in Vienna, 1984, and the second is based on the life and death of Steve Biko.

Unrivalled elegance: Michael Hordern and Geraldine McEwan in Sheridan's play, The Rivals (Theatre Royal, Glasgow)

GLASGOW: Theatre Royal (041 331 1234). You Can't Take it With You by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Final performances today at 2.15pm and 7.15pm
National Theatre production, directed by Michael Bodganov, on tour. Jimmy Jewel and Geraldine McEwan head the cast.
The Rivals by Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Opens Tues at 7.15pm. Until Feb 18, Tues-Sat at 7.15pm; matinées Wed and Thurs at 2.15pm
National Theatre production on tour. Cast includes Geraldine McEwan, Michael Hordern, David Rintoul.

LANCASTER: Duke's Playhouse (0524 66645). The Life of Einstein by Norman Leach. Until Feb 18, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
This world premiere production, directed by David Thacker, has David Bradley as the greatest scentist of our age, a socialist and pacifist whose work led to the development of the atomic bomb by the most powerful capitalist country in the world.

LIVERPOOL: Everyman (051 709 4776). The Tempest, adapted by Glen Walford. Until Feb 25, Tues-Sat at 8pm
An adaptation with original music but said to be "faithful to the text" of Shakespeare's most magical, mysterious play. Walford's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in January 1983 played to full houses here.

MANCHESTER: Library (061 236 7110). Merrily We Roll Along by Stephen Sondheim and George Furth. Until Feb 18, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
European professional premiere of a Sondheim show with book based on the play by Moss Hart and George Kaufman. Tracie Bennett, Michael Cantwell, Pepsi Maycock, among a cast of 15. Directed by Howard Lloyd-Lewis; musical director Roger Haines; choreographer Paul Kerryson.

MANCHESTER: Royal Exchange (061 833 9833). The Plough and the Stars by Sean O'Casey. Until Feb 25, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm, Wed-Sat at 8pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4.30pm
Gregory Hersov directs a cast headed by Bernard Hill and Val McLane in this classic play centred on the Easter Rising in Dublin, 1916.

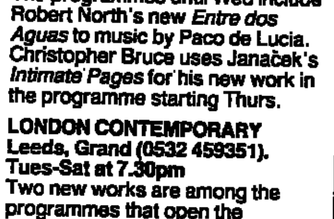
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: Playhouse (0632 323421). Nightmare Rock by Kevin Williams. Until Feb 25, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
World premiere production of a "rock 'n' roll thriller" by an author currently performing in *Blondel* in London.

SOUTHAMPTON: Nuffield (0703 555028). The Hired Man by Melvyn Bragg, Howard Goodall. Until Feb 25, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm
This musical version of Bragg's novel of rural Cumbrian life, from the 1890s to the 1920s, concentrates on the effects of changing times and situations on one married couple (Phyllis Logan, David Tysall). Directed by David Gilmore. Music and lyrics by Howard Goodall, who also orchestrates and is musical director.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: Royal Shakespeare (0789 295623) Look, No Hans! by John Chapman and Michael Pertwee. Opens Mon at 7.30pm. Until Feb 18, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Thurs and Sat at 2.30pm
David Jason and Paul Rogers in a new comedy, directed by Mike Ockrent, with Gabrielle Drake. Touring before a run in the West End.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA, Southend: Palace (0702 42564). Season's Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn. Until Feb 18, Mon-Thurs and Sat at 8pm, Fri at 8.15pm
One of Ayckbourn's more recent works and among his most acerbic comedies comes to the end of its seaside run.

PREVIEW Dance



ROYAL BALLET
Covent Garden (240 1066). Today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Tues and Wed at 7.30pm
Jay Jolley replaces the injured Charles Jude as Elisabeth Platel's partner for *Swan Lake* tonight. Fiona Chadwick and Stephen Jefferies dance it this afternoon, Marguerite Porter and Jolley on Wed. *La Fille mal gardée* is given on Tues with Wendy Ellis.

FESTIVAL BALLET GROUP
Dartford, The Orchard (32 77331). Tues and Wed at 7.45pm. Queen Elizabeth Hall (928 3191). Fri at 7.45pm
Twelve dancers from Festival Ballet give a programme specially prepared for smaller stages, including solos from *Les Sylphides* and two premieres: André Prokovsky's *The Aquarium*, set to Gershwin melodies, and *Emily*, a dramatic work by present and former company members.

BALLET RAMBERT
Manchester, Royal Northern College of Music (061 273 4504). Today at 7.30pm. Birmingham Rep (021 236 4455). Mon-Fri at 7.30pm and Feb 18 at 8pm
The programmes until Wed include Robert North's new *Entre dos Aguas* to music by Paco de Lucia. Christopher Bruce uses Janaček's *Intimate Pages* for his new work in the programme starting Thurs.

LONDON CONTEMPORARY
Leeds, Grand (0532 459351). Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
Two new works are among the programmes that open the company's spring tour. One, by Siobhan Davies, uses a contemporary piano score, *Phrygian Gates*, by John Adams (Tues, Wed); the other, by Robert Cohan (from Thurs), is set to Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 3 and Chaconne in D Minor for cello.

SCOTTISH BALLET
Glasgow, Mitchell Theatre (bookings at The Ticket Centre, (041 552 5961). Fri and Feb 18 at 7.30pm
A programme of *divertimenti* opens the company's annual series of special events, under the title "Dance Diversions", which this year extends to Edinburgh as well as Glasgow and continues until Mar 7. Details from Scottish Ballet (041 331 2931).



Stars: Wendy Ellis and Fiona Chadwick (see the Royal Ballet)

PREVIEW Photography

Critics' choice

DREAMS-VISIONS-METAPHORS
Photographers' Gallery, 5 and 8 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (240 1969). Tues-Sat 11am-7pm
Superficially gentle, deeply exploratory pictures by the little-known Mexican photographer Manuel Alvarez Bravo of his native land. Landscapes, buildings, people and objects are often used as symbols in a dissertation on mankind's fate.

AUTOGRAPHS
The Cambridge Photographic Gallery, The Bath House, Gwydir Street, Cambridge (0223 350725) Ends tomorrow, today 12-8pm, tomorrow 12-6pm
Opening show for this new gallery which has invited 47 photographers to submit self-portraits or pictures that make a statement about their identities as photographers. Several of the photographs on show are seen for the first time. Contributors include Bill Brandt, Fay Godwin, Brian Griffin, Chris Steele-Perkins, Bruce Rae, Humphrey Spender and Sam Haskins.

ANNIE LEIBOWITZ
The Olympus Gallery, 24 Princes Street, London W1 (491 7591). Ends Fri, Mon-Fri 11am-7pm
With her work for the American magazine *Rolling Stone*, Annie Leibowitz has carved a distinctive style of portrait photography which suggests the outrageous but which deals mainly in the contrived avant-garde with the avowed intention being to shock. I am not convinced that she deserves her reputation as a notable photographer but this show will please her admirers on this side of the Atlantic.

MAN OF MARK
Ffotogallery, 41 Charles Street, Cardiff (0222 41667). Ends today, 10am-5pm
Fifty photographs from Alvin Langdon Coburn's collection which he presented to the Royal Photographic Society in 1930. It includes portraits, Whistleresque landscapes and elevated cityscapes of New York which presage later revolutionary Russian photography.

GERRY GROVE MEMORIAL
The Photogallery, The Foresters Arms, St Leonards, East Sussex. Until Feb 18, Wed-Sat 11am-6pm
Gerry Grove, who died in 1982, began printing for Bert Hardy after the demise of *Picture Post* in the late-1950s. He soon attracted some of the cream of British photographers. This memorial show includes work by Patrick Ward, Bryn Campbell, Eamonn McCabe, Ian Berry and many others.

NIGHT TRICK
Kettle's Yard Gallery, Northampton Street, Cambridge (0223 35124). Until Feb 19, Mon-Sat 12.30-5.30pm, Sun 2-5.30pm
Photographs taken during the late 1950s by O. Winston Link which examine life around the railway in small-town, middle America. All rather stage-managed but some marvellous images, among the best of which is the drive-in movie complete with all-American youth, gas guzzlers and thundering locomotive.

THE BODY ELECTRIC
Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, York (0904 54724). Ends today 10am-6pm
An exhibition of ballet and dance photography from 1859 to the present day which includes work by Bassano, Disderi and E. O. Hoppe among others.



IMAGES OF THE WEEK: Fidel Castro (right), pictured in 1971, and Evelyn Waugh (1964), two of the portraits that will go on show on Friday in an exhibition commemorating the seventy-fifth birthday of the world-famous photographer Yousuf Karsh of Ottawa. The exhibition is at the National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552) until April 28. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Admission 50p, students and pensioners 25p

PREVIEW Galleries

THE CITY'S PICTURES
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (638 4141). Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun noon-6pm
A semi-permanent display of painting and sculpture belonging to the Corporation of London goes on show for the rest of the year. Many of the 70 or so works are well-known Pre-Raphaelite paintings, including Leighton's *The Music Lesson*, Holman Hunt's *The Eve of St Agnes* and Millais's *My First Sermon* and *My Second Sermon*. There is also a room of Matthew Smith oil-paintings and a selection of photogravures by Edward Curtis.

DEREK JARMAN
ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (930 3647). Exhibition until March 18, Tues-Sun 12-9pm. Films and video until Feb 26, Wed-Sun 6.30pm and 8.30pm
One of the most versatile of modern British artists, Derek Jarman is a painter, theatre and film designer, writer and, most prominently of late, a film-maker. The ICA's representation of his work takes in his recent paintings and a broader spread of his work in films, including his own features *Sebastiane*, *Jubilee* and *The Tempest*, and various 16mm shorts, as well as videos and films just designed by him.

SHERRIFFS
Main and terrace foyers, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (928 2033). Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat 10am-11pm
Probably best remembered for his regular caricatures of film personalities in *Punch*, between 1948 and his death in 1961, Robert Stewart Sherriffs first achieved fame in the 1920s when he illustrated a series of barbed impressions of current celebrities by Beverley Nichols in *The Sketch*. His crisp and economical line probably owed something to his early training as an heraldic artist, but his sense of character was all his own.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY PORTRAITS
National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 (930 1552). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm
The National Portrait Gallery's new display of famous people who have contributed to the character and development of the past 80 years They include William Roberts's double portrait of John Maynard Keynes and his wife Lydia Lopokova; Ben Nicholson's self-portrait with Barbara Hepworth; and Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales.

AXEL HAIG
Royal Institute of British Architects, Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (580 5533). Until Feb 25, Mon-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 11am-1pm
Internationally famous in the later nineteenth century for his intricate etched evocations of a Middle Ages both archaeologically accurate and suffused with Romantic feeling, Haig was Swedish in origin, but trained in England under William Burges as an architectural draughtsman. His own later work was almost entirely architectural, hence the venue for this new exploration of "The Victorian Vision of the Middle Ages"

WALTER GREAVES
Michael Parkin Gallery, 11 Motcomb Street, London SW1 (235 8144). Until Feb 17, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm
Exhibition of two hundred oil-paintings, drawings and prints depicting Chelsea scenes and dating from 1880 to 1900. Most come from the Marchant family and are on show for the first time. It was William Marchant who "rediscovered" Greaves and gave him a big exhibition in 1911.

THE OMEGA WORKSHOPS
Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, London SW1 (930 4811). Until Mar 18, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Anthony D'Offay, 9 and 23 Dering Street, London W1 (499 4695). Until Mar 6, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm
Two matching shows commemorate the Bloomsbury Group's largest single contribution to the visual arts in Britain. The artist-decorators involved were led by Roger Fry and included Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell, Gaudier-Brzeska and Wyndham Lewis. Their highly coloured products included furnishing and decoration of all kinds, some of it now quaintly period and some amazingly modern.

LIGHT DIMENSIONS
Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (589 3456). Until Mar 4, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
Exhibition on the evolution of holography, the creation by laser of three-dimensional images which enables objects to float in space.

ISLAMIC ART AND DESIGN 1500-1700
Special Exhibitions Gallery, British Museum, London WC1 (636 1555). Until Feb 19, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
An exhibition of the great achievements of Islamic art produced under the Ottomans in Turkey, the Safavids in Iran and the Moguls in India. All three empires shared a common taste for hardstones, textiles, pottery, calligraphy and firearms. Pieces on show are selected from the rich collections of the British Museum and Library, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Chester Beatty Library and private collections.

BRITISH ART AND DESIGN 1900-1960
Room 74, Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (589 6371). Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
The first of the new permanent galleries devoted to the twentieth century. The curators of the V & A have selected pieces they consider representative of the best of the decorative arts of the period.

THE GENIUS OF VENICE 1500-1600
Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Until Mar 11, daily 10am-6pm
The sixteenth century was the most glorious epoch for Venetian art. Carpaccio's painting "The Lion of St Mark" symbolizes Venetian power and introduces an exhibition of 300 masterpieces drawn from collections throughout the world and including the recently restored "Judgment of Solomon" painted by Giorgione or Sebastiano del Piombo or the two together.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Photography: Michael Young; Galleries: John Russell Taylor; Dance: John Percival

هكذا من الأصل



THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Lawson's lot eased at a statistical stroke

With on· tap on the statisticians' keyboard, he Treasury has cut the Public Sector Borowing Requirement (PSBR) by up to half a billion pounds, widening still further it Budget leeway. By the time-honouredmethod of written parliamentary answr at the tail end of the week, the Chancellc of the Exchequer announced yesterday that public sector deposits would case to be counted as part of sterling 13 and would be excluded from the PSBI.

Theres plenty of statistical justification anxiousl advanced by the Treasury for this mve: changes in public sector depositscan be large and erratic, and have no econmic significance. In one month they ma rise or fall by as much as £500m. If the nonthly snapshot is taken, for exampl, at the moment before local authoriy deposits have been drawn down to repy borrowings, the statistics may record misleading increase. (A rather less soothing explanation of the tendency for these eposits to rise over recent years is that lcal authorities have been increasing deposits to take advantage of high interest rates.)

Since deposits are not in any way related to public expenditure, international convention dictates that they should be excluded from the totals of public borrowing or broad money. To this convention Mr Lawson is now graciously giving way.

But statistical purity is not the whole story. The change is mightily convenient to the Chancellor. Over a full financial year, the impact of public sector deposits on the PSBR has recently ranged from minus £100m in 1979-80 to plus £500m in 1980-81. On average, however, they have tended to increase public borrowing by nearly £200m a year. In the current financial year their impact has been much greater: £350m during the first three quarters of 1983-84, and there is no reason to suppose this increase will not be sustained through the fourth quarter. Excluding deposits would reduce the monetary growth during this target period by only about a quarter of a per cent, but would have a far greater proportionate effect on the politically important PSBR.

The change will only take effect from the beginning of the 1984-85 financial year and the new target period for the monetary aggregates. It will make it significantly easier for the Chancellor to meet his published PSBR target in the Budget, or impress the markets by lowering that target below £8 billion. The change has been announced well in advance of March 13 in order to try to avoid accusations that the Chancellor was cooking the Budget Red Book. What suspicious minds some people have!

Trafalgar runs into a Scotch mist

Trafalgar House was putting forward its boldest and most confident face yesterday, insisting that it still expects to carry the day with its controversial bid to buy Scott Lithgow from British Shipbuilders.

The company is meeting the unions at the yard on Wednesday, and it continues to voice doubts whether either of the rival bidders that have emerged so far – Howard Doris and a consortium led by Bechtel – could put a viable bid together at such short notice.

There is a touch of bravura about this: for it is clear that Mr Nigel Broackes and his Trafalgar crew, while they may win in the end, are running into a fog of difficulties. The political rumpus has reached a pitch which, while it will cause Mr Broackes no loss of sleep, can no longer be safely ignored by the Government.

There is considerable pressure on Mr Graham Day, British Shipbuilders' chairman, not to explain why he wants to get rid of his corporation's greatest millstone (a course the Government entirely supports), but why he appears so single-mindedly determined to sell it to Trafalgar House.

Relations between Trafalgar House and Britoil, owner of the unfinished rig languishing in the Scott Lithgow yard, appear to be deteriorating by the day. There is no love lost between them to judge by the scathing comments about each other in private.

Trafalgar House takes a less than charitable view of Britoil's management, which it feels should not have allowed the rig to run so late and so over budget. Britoil is worried abut Trafalgar's lack of experience in building offshore rigs, and, understandably wants to give companies with greater experience in thebusiness a chance to compete. Whoever wins the day, Britoil may still go ahead with the cancellation of the rig if it believes there is no realistic chance of geting it in time for the 1986 drilling season. By then it would already be two years late.

The strategic logic of Trafalgar's move to get into the offshore rig-building business is sound. It would dovetail neatly with its existing steel and rig superstructure manufacturing business in the North-east. And nobody has denied that the terms Mr Broackes has been offered – the "clean slate" extended by Mrs Thatcher – are tempting, especially with the potential of property development of the site thrown in for nothing.

From looking like anotable coup, the deal is becoming too messy, and it could well come unstuck. Trafalgar House could, still, be free to pursue its option on acquiring another North Sea yard, the British Steel yard at Methil in Fife.

The great mortgage anti-climax

Yesterday's meeting of the Building Societies Association council ended in a resounding anti-climax. The message: no change in building society rates.

Meanwhile the societies are still pulling in savers' money. Net receipts for January, to be announced next week, will be more than £900m which, even allowing for about £100m of "hot money" – savings finding a temporary home after being switched out of offshore funds – is comfortably above the monthly average of £750m which the BSA believes necessary to meet loan demand this year.

The abolition of the cartel, ironically, has helped to create this seemingly paradoxical situation because it has removed the mechanism for reaching agreement among the societies and yet no individual society dare take the commercial risk of going-it-alone in reducing rates. The two biggest societies, the Halifax and the Abbey National still favour a one per cent cut in savings and mortgage rates but they know that if they moved ahead of the pack they would quickly find their intake of savings drying up at the same time as they were being overwhelmed with mortgage applications.

They also fear that with money coming in at the present rate, societies may find themselves full of expensive deposits which they are unable to lend out either because the market is oversupplied or because they simply cannot process applications fast enough.

The abolition of the cartel highlighted an important change in building societies' priorities away from concern with keeping rates low for existing borrowers toward satisfying the needs of new housebuyers societies would pay the price to attract the necessary funds.

The majority view at yesterday's council meeting was that net receipts would show a seasonal fall in the next few months when mortgage demand was picking up and lending rising to new levels around March or April. Furthermore, although queues are rapidly dwindling, the suspicion remains that more voracious homebuyers and home-improvers would soon surface if the queues vanished. And if customers are prepared to borrow money at the present price, why reduce it?

The Budget will provide a convenient watershed for taking stock. There must be every chance that rates will now come down soon after March 13.

Charles Fulton

Mercantile House has made two points in response to yesterday's note "Enter a third force in money broking". It was a condition of the original purchase of Charles Fulton in 1982 that half the staff would be made redundant, and Mercantile's subsequent sale of the profitable parts of the company yielded £10.5m (not £5.5m) and thus a handsome profit over the purchase price of £6.5m.

It should also be made clear that the reborn Charles Fulton has bought the money broking subsidiaries of Maybon, Nugent and Godsell, not MNG itself.

BL wants to keep 25% holding in privately-owned Jaguar

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

BL wants to retain a 25 per cent shareholding in Jaguar when the luxury car maker is floated as a public company in two months' time. It has also made a similar proposal to the Government in respect of Uniparts, BL's profitable parts and accessories subsidiary which is expected to follow Jaguar into private ownership before the end of the year.

Management control usually requires a 30 to 35 per cent holding as opposed to 51 per cent for absolute financial control. BL has told the Government that it would be happy with a minimum of 20 per cent but would prefer 25 per cent to ensure that it is the major shareholder.

The retention of such a large state holding after privatization will not find favour with those government supporters who have been pressing for "a clean break" to avoid a further drain on state aid. But BL's board has presented a strong case which will almost certainly be approved by the Government within the next fortnight.

It has emphasized that it is seeking continued state participation through a substantial but minority shareholding for only a limited period. It insists this is necessary to ensure that Jaguar and later Uniparts are developed in the best interests of this country as well as the new shareholders.

Although the close links between Jaguar and Uniparts have been put on to a formal contractual basis to make privatization possible, BL says it is imperative that the relationship should be sypathetic during the difficult running-in period.

It is even more worried about the situation that could arise when Austin Rover goes private because of its much greater dependence on a fair deal from the privately-owned Uniparts to generate the substantial profits all car-makers depend on from the "after market".

This would seem to suggest that BL wants to retain its 25 per cent for as long as five years because most industry experts do not expect the group's biggest car-maker to be sufficiently profitable before then to attract private investors.

A date for Jaguar's flotation has already been set by BL and is only awaiting government approval. The preparation work has been complicated by the existence of BL's often-forgotten 65,000 surviving shareholders. Although retaining only a tiny portion of the equity they will have to be formally notified of the Jaguar proposals, which will then have to be approved at an extraordinary general meeting.

However the latter may not be necessary because BL's provisional financial results for 1983 are due out next month, followed soon afterwards by the annual meeting. The two events could be combined to provide the launch platform for Jaguar.

The possibility of a two-stage return to private ownership was hinted at by BL in its 1983 corporate plan which was lodged with the Government over a year ago. At the time this remark went almost unnoticed: "One of our objectives is to obtain investment of private sector funds in some of the mainstream business over the next two years (1983 and 1984) as a first step towards an eventual return to private ownership".

Paul Channon: helped to win £225,000 order.

Red tape for export thanks to Whitehall

By John Lawless

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade is claiming the prize for Britain's most unusual export order on behalf of his own civil servants.

"The customer," he said yesterday, "was the Turkish Posts and Telecommunications Authority and the contract – appropriatel enough as we helped win the order – was for £225,000 worth of red tape."

The order went to the Rotunda company, of Denton, Manchester, which had paid just 35p for a sales lead notice from the Department of Trade and Industry's Export Intelligence Service.

The EIS feeds information from British embassies around the world into a computer, and then offers them to British exporters.

Mr Geoff Davenport, Rotunda's managing director, said: "Who would believe that civil servants could cut through red tape. Their information was perfectly timed and, in fact, we have received a follow-up order from Turkey for another £50,000."

Rotunda, which makes specialist tapes for electrical insulation and duct sealing, followed up the tip-off and beat Japanese and European competitiors to win the contract.

Mr Channon already has what is officially being described by his department as "his prize". He said: "The firm gave us the reel of red tape and a certificate of merit

The embassies complain that much of their hard work goes to waste, and the government is making an effort to get more businessmen to use their advance information about potential sales.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, last night told businessmen in Stockport, Cheshire, that the commercial serices overseas cost £60m a year to run – but that the EIS produces, according to exporters' own figures, sales of at least £1 billion a year.

"A fair return by anybody's measure," he said, "and achieved by a diplomatic service with a relatively small number of staff – just over 6,500

Hanson challenges Brick figures

By Jonathan Clare

Hanson Trust yesterday made a strongly critical attack on London Brick's 215p per share asset valuation on the grounds that it was so constructed that it "cannot be connected with its balance sheet or its recent profits forecast".

But the half-expected third bid by Hanson for the brick company did not appear during the the Stock Exchange's Trading hours. A new bid must be formally posted to shareholders by Tuesday

Lord Hanson, believed to be in California, said in a statement yesterday: "We believe in market forces and the offer represents just that – an excellent price for the company. This latest manoeuvre by London Brick (the asset valuation released on Thursday) is simply designed to avoid facing the facts of the market."

But a spokesman for Lazards, London Brick's merchant bank, said: "If he really does believe in market forces he will have to increase his bid". London Brick's shares were 155p yesterday, still well above Hanson's offer, equivalent to 140p per share, which values the company at £212m.

Lazards said of Lord Hanson's criticism of the valuation: "The valuation was produced in order to demonstrate to shareholders that Lord Hanson's offer was as inadequate as they first thought. Whether it is included in the balance sheet is neither here nor there".

Aero agrees Coats bid

By Philip Robinson

Coats Patons, the Scottish permier yarns, cottons and fabrics group, yesterday launched an agreed £3.7m counter bid for Britain's largest knitting needle maker, Aero Needles Group.

Coats is bidding 85p a share against a 60p-a-share bid launched last month by the British arm of Illionis-based Newell Furnishing. Aero rejected Newell's bid and said it was trying to grab assets on the cheap.

Aero's management is recommending the Coats bid and accepting with 6.32 per cent of the equity. Other shareholders including the German company, William Prym-Werke, have promised to accept the bid giving Coats around 33.37 per cent of the shares.

New share price index on Monday

By Graham Searjeant

The Stock Exchange will launch its new computerized 100 share index at 9.35am on Monday. It is likely to be called the FT Stock Exchange Index and has been – calculated privately since January 3, the first trading day of this year, from a base of 1,000, and the first public calculation will probably be – about 1,025.

It is likely to replace the FT industrial share index as the main measure of share price changes in Britain.

The new index will reflect changes in the prices of its constituent shares within a minute. It has been set up in response to calls from the London International Financial Futures Exchange, which plans to launch a stock index futures contract within the next few months.

The new index will operate on the same basis as the 747 constituent all-share index, by reflecting the market values of each company rather than treating all share prices as equal. It will e based on the 100 biggest companies traded largely on the London Stock Exchange and will thus be dominated by oil companies, and the large financial groups more than industrial companies.

Dollar gains

Early rumours of President Andropov's death sent the dollar sharply higher yesterday morning but, after confirmation from Moscow, traders took their profits, leaving the US currency only 75 points up against the Deutschemark at DM2.7415.

The Soviet Union was a notable seller of dollars yeste-day after beay bying on Thursday before the rumours began.

The pound lost 90 points to $1.4140, while its trade-weighted index fell 0.3mto 81.4.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 805.4 up 0.44
FT Gilts: 82.49 up 0.11
FT All Share: 481.97 up 0.71
Bargains: 24.131
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 102.89 up 0.44
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1,159.44 up 6.70
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,959.90 down 41 64
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1050.77 down 39.31
Amsterdam: 164.2 up 2.0
Sydney: AO Index 743.4 down 4.3
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1037.2 down 1.6
Brussels: General Index 140.80 up 0.9
Paris: CAC Index 163.6 down 1.4
Zurich: SKA General 308.20 up 1.90

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.4140 down 90pts
Index 81.4 down 0.3
DM 3.8825 down 0.0075
FrF 11.9450 down 0.0125
Yen 332.00 down 0.75

Dollar
Index 130.2 up 0.4
DM 2.7415 up 0.0075

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4155
Dollar DM 2.7425

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.578080
SDR £0.732748

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $380.90 pm $377.65
close $378.25 (£267 25-267.75)
New York (latest): $378.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$390.00-391.50 (£275.50-276.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
$89.00-90.00 (£62 75-63.50)
*Excludes VAT

WALL STREET

Dow average up by 5 points

New York (Reuter) – Wall Street share prices remained higher in early trading yesterday, but prices pulled back from the day's peaks.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which had risen to 1161 in the morning, was up by 5 points to about 1157.

In the broader market, rising issues outnumbered declines by about seven to six. Volume was about 31 million shares.

Chock Full O'Nuts rose 2½ to 20½ after American Financial Corp said it had increased its stake in the company from 29.3 to 45.4 per cent.

● US wholesale prices accelerated by 0.6 per cent in January, making their biggest one-month rise in more than a year as food prices surged ahead in the wake of severe winter weather, which destroyed crops and livestock (Bailey Morris writes from Washington).

End to US supply ban would hit Arabs

Japan may desert Opec oil

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is faced with a new threat to its share of world oil sales at a time when forecasts show that world consumption of its oil could fall to 16 million barrels a day from the present 17.5 million.

The United States is considering whether to lift its ban on exports of Alaskan oil to Japan. If it does, the Alaskan oilfields would supply up to 200,000 barrels a day, all of it replacing oil at present bought by Japan from Middle Eastern Opec producers.

The proposal is being put forward by the Alaskan member in the US Senate, Mr Frank Murkowski. He has tabled an amendment to legislation which allowed the construction of the Trans-Alaskan pipeline and banned exports of oil from the

Mr Murkowski argues that lifting the ban would free Japan from uncertain Middle East oil supplies, would increase tax and royalty income from increased output and would cut the US trade deficit with Japan.

A report by the Arab Organization for Information shows that Opec output could drop to 16 million barrels a day early this spring. But if Opec accepts lower production in an orderly way, the report suggests, output could rise again to 17.5 million barrels a day.

Other pressures working against a stable world oil market in the coming months include Saudi stockpiling in chartered supertankers, Nigeria's need to increase oil revunue, Iraqi export expansion with the completion of its new pipeline to Turkish ports and an increase in Soviet exports of crude oil

There is now a real prospect that Nigeria will be allowed to increase its output marginally to improve foreign earnings from exports.

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister and the most influential voice within Opec, arrived in Nigeria yesterday for talks with the new head of government Major General Mohammadu Buhari. Shaikh Yamani is a friend of the Major General Buhari since his days as a Nigerian Opec delegate.

Shaikh Yamani has indicated that any request by Nigeria to increase its output above its present 1.3 million barrels a day quota to nearer two million bpd would be given preferential treatment by Opec. He said he would personally support such a Nigerian request and would

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Bid hope lifts TI shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Monday. Dealings end, Feb 24. Contango Day, Feb 27. Settlement Day, March 5.

Hopes of a bid from across the Atlantic sent shares of **TI Group**, Britain's troubled engineering giant, leaping 16p to a new high of 218p yesterday. Dealers estimated that more than 4 million shares had been picked up by one mystery buyer amounting to 6.7 per cent of the total shares in issue. All week the market has been buzzing with rumours of a buyer bidding 10p above the present price outside the market place.

At this level the group is valued at around £129m. But a spokesman for TI said: "I know nothing about it at all".

Last night market pundits were tipping **General Electric** of the US as the most likely party to make a bid. GE's interests range from jet engines to medical products and missile and radar systems. A bid for TI would be well within its means. But GE's spokesman denied it was buying the shares. "We are not aware of any such activities", he said.

The broker Laing & Cruickshank was reported to have been a big buyer of the shares, but Mr Robert Stormonth-Darling, senior partner with the firm, said he had no comment to make.

Last year pretax profits at TI tumbled £29.4m to £3.7m and for 1983 analysts are looking for around £22m.

Fears of another round of price cutting in the Japanese drug industry sent Beecham sliding 8p to 295p yesterday, after 288p. Last year the group sold £170m worth of drugs in the Far East and last year's cuts of up to 25 per cent may have hit profits to the tune of £6m. The broker De Zoete & Bevan fears further cuts could again his profits by a similar margin.

TI's sharp rise in share price was partly responsible for the sudden rally in the *FT* Index at the close. After fluctuating in narrow limits throughout the day it ended the account 4.1 up at 805.4 – a fall over the two week period of 34.1. Dealers said a firmer appearance on Wall Street also helped sentiment.

Government stocks had a better day, cheered by the last inflation figures which made good reading. Prices at the longer end of the market rose by up to £⅝ in active trade and the FT Government Secuities Index rose 0.11 to 82.49.

Blue chips closed mixed with **Allied-Lyons** sliding 1p to 148p, **Blue Circle** 2p to 418p, **Bowater** 2p to 260p, **Distillers** 2p to 252p, **Glaxo** 5p to 750p and **Hawker Siddeley** 8p to 392p, while **Imperial Group** rose 2p to 156p, **Grand Metropolitan** 2p to 340p, **Lucas Industries** 4p to 213p, **P & O** deferred 3p to 267p, **Vickers** 3p to 131p, **Boots** 3p to 171p and **GEC** 4p to 182p.

Oils were dull faced with a new price war at the petrol pumps. **BP** slipped 3p to 418p, **Ultramar** 3p to 639p, **Lasmo** 3p to 305p, **Premier Consolidated** 2p to 54p and **Charterhall** 3p to 72p. Only the selected few managed to resist the trend with **Britoil** closing all square at 230p still reflecting the recent buy recommendation from the broker James Capel. **Shell** also rose 3p to 601p and **Tricentrol** added 4p to 200p after announcing its US plans earlier in the week.

Mr Ian Wasserman, former Slater Walker lieutenant and now chairman of **G. M. Firth (Holdings)**, made it clear why he has been building up a stake in the loss-making brewery and marine equipment group **Porter Chadburn**. Last night the two said they were in talks which may lead to Firth taking up new Porter shares or making a full bid for Porter at a price broadly equivalent to 83p.

But Mr Wasserman, who speaks for 29.2 per cent of Porter, may have to pay more. Porter's shares jumped 11p on the announcement and a further 10p later in the day to close at 95p where it is valued at just over £3m. Firth eased ½p to 21p.

Oil Field Systems Corporation has bought 265,000 shares in **American Oil Field Systems**, unchanged at 28p.

The **Prudential Corporation** has been buying more shares in the **Bishopsgate Trust**, down 1p at 151p, and now owns about 24 per cent of the issued capital. But the **Wesleyan & General Assurance Society** has sold 275,000 shares in **Hales Property**, which is being bid for by Belgrave (Blackheath), reducing its holding to 289,000 shares, or 10.25 per cent. Hales slipped 3p on the news to 197p, just 2p short of the low.

F H Tomkins, the fastener manufacturer, rose 2p to 65p after Mr Geoffrey Hutchings, a director with the company, alone with the broker Simon & Coates and County Bank announced they held 7.1 million shares between them. **Prince of Wales** advanced 2p to 143p after rejecting the £7.9m bid from Mr Michael Carlton's **Taddale Investments**, but later slipped to close 5p down on the day at 136p.

Speculative support was good for 9p on **Cornell Dresses** at 290p. Mr Asil Nadir flew out for a tour of Polly Peck's operations in Turkey and Cyprus earlier this week, but dealers are hoping that the merger terms for Mr Nadir's three publicly quoted companies may be announced toward the end of March. **Wearwell**, the third leg of the deal slipped 1p to 109p.

The bid rumours at Grattan, the mail order group, refuse to lie down. Yesterday the shares rebounded 6p to 82p – just 5p short of the year's high – as more than 300,000 shares changed hands. Dealers reported strong new time demand on hopes of a bid next account, but Sears, which once hoped to merge with Grattan, has already denied involvement. At this level the group is worth £36.4m.

Another of Mr Nadir's companies, **Strong & Fisher** encountered profit taking after a lively account, sliding 7p to 201p.

Leading high street banks had another mixed session with small gains reported in **Barclays** 5p at 552p, **National Westminster** 2p to 719p, but the **Bank of Scotland** lost 5p at 635p, **Lloyds Bank** 5p to 544 and the **Royal Bank of Scotland** 4p to 218p. The insurance composites continued to lose ground after news earlier in the week that the bad weather that hit the British Isles last month would cost the insurance companies a total of £70m. **Commercial Union**, due to report later this month, remained out of favour but closed above its worst levels of the day 1p lower at 175p. **General Accident** slipped 3p to 430p, **Guardian Royal Exchange** 5p to 520p and **Royal Insurance** 3p to 515p. Only **Phoenix**, still being tipped as the next likely takeover candidate, made any improvement, rising 10p to 448p.

Gold shares reacted positively to the news of the death of the Soviet leader Mr Andropov, but failed to hold their best levels. **RTZ** rose 5p to 644p and **Consolidated Gold Fields** 5p to 552p, but **Broken Hill** fell 4p to 776p.

Half year decline at Aerospace Engineering

By Vivien Goldsmith

Aerospace Engineering, the Unlisted Securities Market precision engineering company has published a delayed set of poor figures in the midst of a boardroom row.

The company announced yesterday that Mr Peter Warry "has ceased to be managing director and is no longer a director." The row broke out at Thursday's board meeting and is believed to centre on Mr Warry's relations with the rest of the board. He is expected to get a small golden handshake.

Mr Warry joined the company as general manager in October 1982, and became managing director in October 1983. The chairman, Mr Reginald Mercado, is taking over until a new managing director is found.

Yesterday's half-year figures from Tuesday, show a profit of £151,000 against £605,000.

The figures include start-up costs of £205,000 for a communications division set up this year to provide a call system for wardens in sheltered housing for the elderly. The company says that big orders have been received from local authorities. The start-up costs have been treated as an exceptional item.

The dividend has been maintained at an adjusted 1.625p. Turnover has increased sharply to £6.3m from 2m. Restructuring costs are charged above the line at £172,000.

The shares fell 20p to 5p on the news.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

Unit Trust Prices - change on the week

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Current Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

مكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Half... decline... Aero... Engine...

...onehill losses trimmed

...Holdings, the Lon... ...ture manufacturer, ...s pre-tax losses for ...weeks of the current ...206,000 to £54,000. ...a trading profit of ...mpared with a loss ...last year when there ...terest dividend. A ...1p is being paid this

...lip Steinberg, the ...xpects the improve... ...continue into the ...future. Last year, the ...ade full-time pretax ...02,000.

...Scientific has ac... ...ton Thermal De... ...arket Harborough... ...r of electric laboratory furnaces and related equipment. Purchase consideration is £36,156 in shares and cash.

● **Hamersley Holdings:** The lower value of the Australian dollar boosted profits of Hamersley Holdings, the Australian iron-ore extraction group, by A$33m (£21.7m) last year. The excahnge rate accounts for the bulk of the increase in profits in 1983 from A$54.7m to A$89.2m (£58m) against a background of lower ore prices. A "significant" fall in profits is expected this year, unless there is a world upturn in demand for steel and a weakening of the Australian dollar from its current levels. Hamersley is 93.7 per cent owned by CRA, a 52.9 per cent-owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto-Zinc.

● **Pilkington Brothers:** The US Federal Trade Commission has completed its review of the proposed takeover by Pilkington of 30 per cent of the common stock of Libbey-Owens-Ford for $108.2m (£76m), announced in Oct. Pilkington expects the FTC not to object – subject to Pilkington accepting two principal conditions, which it has agreed to do. The commission's final decision will be known after the normal 60 days waiting period.

● **Wiggin's Group:** Half-year to Sept 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 28,885 (20,295). Operating profit 217 (330). Exceptional debit 650 (nil. Pretax loss 433 (profit 330). Tax 43 (40). Loss per share 5.5p (earnings 3.7p).

COMMODITIES

...MODITY PRICES
...r in £s per tonne; ...sugar in pounds per ...metric ton; ...US $ per metric ton.

912-75
915-80
895-92
911-06
922-20
935-32
945-45
970-66
985-71
49

183.60-184.20
189.20-189.40
198.20-198.80
206.40-206.60
212.60-213.60
226.40-227.00
234.00-235.00

1882-80
1876-72
1854-42
1834-30
1810-07
1800-96
1790-87
4,692

2099-2097
1988-1957
1887-1885
1843-1842
1815-1814
1782-1780
1755-1763
3,841

2460.00-245.75
244.75-240.60
241.00-240.75
237.50-237.25
237.00-236.75
238.00-237.50
243.00-237.50
247.00-237.75
250.00-236.00

...N METAL EXCHANGE
...Unofficial prices:
...cial turnover figures.
...n pounds per metric ton
...in pence per troy ounce
...Wolff ...Co. Ltd. report
...H GRADE

982.00-82.50
1002-02.50
3900

CATODES
969.00-71.00
990.00-91.00
50

TIN STANDARD
Cash 8635-45
Three months 8690-91
T O 140
Tone Steady.

TIN HIGH-GRADE
Cash 8591-92
Three months 8725-26
T O 130
Tone Steady quiet

LEAD
Cash 285.00-86.00
Three months 293.50m94.00
T O: 2,460
Tone Steadier

ZINC
Cash 701.00-02.00
Three months 695.00-95.50
T O: 4,650
Tone: Easier.

SILVER
Cash 616.0-17.0
Three months 630.0-31.0
T O: Two
Tone: Quiet

ALUMINIUM
Cash 1049.50-50.00
Three months 1076.50-77.00
T/O: 5,075
Tone Steadier.

NICKEL
Cash 3280-85
Three months 3356-60
T O: 192
Tone: Steady.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz

Feb	377.50-379.00
Apl	383.10-383.40
Jne	389.20-289.70
Aug	395.40-396.40
Oct	398.00-405.00
Dec	401.00-412.00
Vol	666

Tone: Irregular.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Mar'84	60	4274
Jun'84	-	4312
Sep'84	-	-
Comment. Steady.		
STERLING		
Mar'84	173	14160
Jun'84	71	14182
Sep'84	50	14205
Comment: Weaker.		
D-MARK		
Mar'84	169	3666
Jun'84	3	3703
Sep'84	50	14205
Comment: Volatile.		
SWISS FRANC		
Mar'84	101	4503
Jun'84	-	4574
Sep'84	-	-
Comment: More active.		

EURODOLLARS

Mar'84	1983	9017
June'84	758	8973
Sept	79	8941
Dec'84	30	8913
Mar'85	-	8886
Comment Easier		
SHORT STERLING		
Mar'84	144	9070
Jun'84	137	9042
Sep'84	26	9023
Dec'84	-	9006
Mar'85	-	8996
Comment Steady.		
GILTS		
Mar'84	3676	10810
Jun'84	20	10717
Sep'84	3	10701
Dec'84	1	10670
Mar'85	1	10607
Comment: Firmer.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 10:
GB: Cattle, 94.19p per kg lw (-0.33).
GB: Sheep, 197.42p per kg est d c w (+14.52)
GB: Pigs, 78.06p per kg lw (+3.19).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 0.2 per cent, ave. price, 93.71p (-0.63).
Sheep nos. up 15.8 per cent, ave. price, 196.59p (+12.16)
Pig nos. up 17.3 per cent, ave. price, 78.06p (+3.19)
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 8.4 per cent, ave. price, 95.30p (+0.92).
Sheep nos. up 8.0 per cent, ave. price, 200.28p (+22.29).

WALL STREET

	Feb 9	Feb 8
AMF Inc	14½	15
AMR	31	30¾
Allied Chem	51½	52¼
Allied Stores	46½	46½
Allis Chalmers	14⅛	14⅞
Alcoa	38⅝	37⅞
Amax Inc	23⅝	23¾
Amerada Hess	29	28¾
Am Brands	57	58⅜
Am Broadcast	58½	55⅜
Am Can	47⅞	48⅝
Am Cyanamid	48⅞	48⅝
Am Elec Power	17⅝	17⅝
Am Home	49⅝	50¼
Am Motors	6⅝	6⅛
Am Nat Res	48⅞	48
Am Standard	27	28⅜
Am Telephone	63½	64
Armco Steel	19⅝	20¼
Asarco	28⅝	29¾
Ashland Oil	27⅞	27⅝
Atlantic Richfield	44⅝	44½
Avco	27	27⅛
Avon Products	24½	25
Bankers Tst NY	46⅞	47
Bank of America	20⅝	21¼
Bank of Boston	40⅝	41
Bank of NY	30⅝	31
Beatrice Foods	30	30¼
Bethlehem Steel	24⅝	25
Boeing	42⅞	43⅜
Boise Cascade	37⅝	38⅝
Borden	53⅝	54⅝
Borg Warner	21½	21⅞
Bristol Myers	43⅛	43⅞
BP	24⅛	24⅝
Burlington Ind	30⅝	31⅞
Burlington Nthn	68⅝	69⅝
Burroughs	47⅝	47⅝
Campbell Soup	60⅜	60⅝
Canadian Pacific	37⅞	37¼
Caterpillar	44⅝	45⅞
Celanese	69⅝	69⅞
Central Soya	14⅝	14⅝
Chase Manhat	49⅝	50⅝
Chem Bank NY	48	48⅝
Chrysler	28⅝	28⅞
Citicorp	36⅝	37¼
Clark Equip	32¼	33⅞
Coca Cola	49⅞	50⅞
Colgate	20⅝	21⅛
CBS	67⅝	68¼
Columbia Gas	34	33¼
Combustion Eng	32⅞	33
Comwlth Edison	23⅝	24
Cons Edison	24⅛	24¼
Cons Foods	27	27
Cons Power	12⅛	13⅛
Continental Grp	49⅝	50
Control Data	40⅝	41
Corning Glass	66½	67
CPC Intnl	38¼	38⅛
Crane	30	30
Crocker Int	28	28⅜
Crown Zeller	31¼	30⅞
Dart & Kraft	66	67⅛
Deere	33¼	33⅞
Delta Air	34	33⅝
Detroit Edison	13¼	13⅝
Disney	52	52⅞
Dow Chemical	29	28¼
Dresser Ind	17⅞	18⅛
Duke Power	24⅝	23⅝
Du Pont	45⅝	46⅛
Eastern Air	6⅛	6⅞
Eastman Kodak	68½	68⅝
Eaton Corp	47⅛	48⅝
Esmark	38	39⅝
Evans P D.	8	8⅛
Exxon Corp	36⅛	36⅝
Fed Dept Stores	50⅝	50⅝
Firestone	18⅞	18⅛
Fst Chicago	25⅝	25⅛

	Feb 9	Feb 8
Fst Intrst Bncp	43⅝	43⅞
Fst Penn Corp	6⅝	6⅝
Ford	37	37⅛
GAF Corp	15⅝	15⅝
GTE Corp	39½	40⅞
Gen Dynamics	46⅝	46½
Gen Electric	53⅝	53⅝
Gen Foods	47	48⅞
Gen Mills	48⅝	48⅝
Gen Motors	68⅞	68⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	7⅞	7⅛
Gen Tire	34⅛	34½
Genesco	6⅝	7
Georgia Pacific	21½	21¼
Getty Oil	125⅝	125¼
Gillette	46⅞	47⅛
Goodrich	31⅛	32¼
Goodyear	26⅞	27⅛
Gould Inc	29⅛	28⅜
Grace	40	40⅝
Gt Atlic & Pacific	12	12
Greyhound	22⅝	22⅛
Grumman Corp	24⅝	25⅝
Gulf Oil	57	53⅝
Gulf & West	28⅝	29⅛
Heinz H. J.	38½	38
Hercules	32	32¼
Honeywell	55⅝	55⅝
IC Inds	43	43⅛
Ingersoll	46⅛	47⅛
Inland Steel	28½	28⅛
IBM	109	107⅞
Int Harvester	11⅛	11⅛
INCO	12⅞	13⅛
Int Paper	51⅛	50⅝
Int Tel Tel	38⅛	41
Irving Bank	60⅝	63
Jewel Co	44⅛	45½
Jim Walter	32⅝	33⅛
Johnson & John	37⅞	37⅝
Kaiser Alumin	16⅛	16⅛
Kerr McGee	33⅝	33⅝
Kimberly Clark	88⅞	85⅝
K Mart	30⅝	30⅝
Kroger	31¼	32⅝
L.T.V Corp	16⅞	16⅛
Litton	62⅛	63⅞
Lockheed	34⅛	35⅛
Lucky Stores	18	18
Manuf Hanover	37¼	37⅝
Manville Cp	11⅝	11½
Mapco	25⅛	25⅝
Marine Midland	29⅛	25⅝
Martin Marietta	33⅝	33½
McDonnell	55⅝	56
Mead	34⅛	35¼
Merck	88⅛	95
Minnesota Mng	77	73¼
Mobil Oil	29	28¼
Monsanto	93⅝	93
Morgan J. P.	73⅛	73¼
Motorola	115	114
NCR Corp	110	109⅞
NL Industries	14⅛	14⅛
Nabisco	42⅝	42⅝
Nat Distillers	27⅛	27⅛
Nat Med Ent	21⅞	21⅞
Norfolk South	56⅝	56
NW Bancorp	31⅝	32
Occidental Pet	25⅝	25¼
Ogden	26⅛	25⅞
Olin Corp	25⅝	25⅞
Owens-Illinois	35⅞	36⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	16⅛	14⅛
Pan Am	7⅛	7⅛
Penney J. C.	51⅛	51⅝
Pennzoil	35	35⅛
Pepsico	34⅛	35⅞
Pfizer	37⅝	37
Phelps Dodge	24½	23⅛
Philip Morris	68⅝	68⅛
Phillips Petrol	37¼	36⅛
Polaroid	29	28⅛

	Feb 9	Feb 8
PPG Ind	30⅛	31⅞
Proctor Gamble	48⅛	49⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	22⅝	23⅛
Raytheon	41⅛	42⅝
RCA Corp	31⅛	31
Republic Steel	26½	26⅛
Reynolds Ind	57	59⅛
Reynolds Metal	30⅞	30
Rockwell Int	25½	27⅛
Royal Dutch	46⅝	47⅛
Safeways	23	24⅛
St Regis Paper	38⅞	37¼
SFE Sopac	22	23⅛
SCM	34⅛	32⅛
Schlumberger	45⅝	45
Scott Paper	27⅛	29⅞
Seagram	33⅝	33¼
Sears Roebuck	34⅛	33⅞
Shell Oil	39⅛	37⅛
Shell Trans	34⅝	34½
Signal Co	27⅛	28
Singer	23⅝	23¼
Smithkline Beck	56⅝	55⅞
Sony	15⅛	15⅝
Sth Cal Edison	39⅛	39⅛
Southern Pacific	38⅞	38⅞
Sperry Corp	39	39⅛
Std Oil California	33¼	34
Std Oil Indiana	49⅛	49
Std Oil Ohio	43⅝	44⅝
Sterling Drug	25	25⅛
Stevens J. P.	20⅛	21¼
Sun Comp	48⅝	48
Teledyne	139⅛	138⅝
Tenneco	39⅝	39⅝
Texaco	39⅞	39⅞
Texas East Corp	60⅝	61¼
Texas Inst	127⅝	123
Texas Utilities	24	24¼
Textron	31⅛	31⅛
TWA	23⅛	24⅛
Travelers Corp	30	29⅝
TRW Inc	70⅝	71¼
UAL Inc	32⅛	32
Union Carbide	53⅞	52⅛
Union Oil Calif	33⅛	34
Un Pacific Corp	45⅝	44⅞
Uniroyal	13⅝	14⅛
United Brands	19	19⅛
US Industries	14⅛	14⅛
US Steel	27⅛	27⅛
Utd Technol	64⅛	64⅛
Wachovia	43⅛	44⅛
Warner Comms	27⅛	27⅞
Warner Lambert	31	31¼
Wells Fargo	36¼	36⅛
Westinghse Elec	47⅛	45⅝
Weyerhauser	29	29⅞
Whirlpool	42⅛	42⅛
Woolworth	31⅛	32⅞
Xerox Corp	41⅛	41⅛
Zenith	27⅝	29⅛
Canadian Prices		
Abitibi	26	26
Alcan Alumin	41	40⅝
Algoma Steel	28⅛	29
Bell Telephone	30⅛	30⅝
Cominco	56⅞	57⅛
Cons Bathurst	25⅞	26
Gulf Oil	16⅝	16⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	18	18
Imasco	34	34
Imperial Oil	38⅝	38⅞
Int Pipe	29⅞	29⅞
Mass-Fergsn	4⅝	4⅝
Royal Trustco	26⅛	26⅛
Seagram	42	41⅛
Steel Co	28⅞	29⅞
Thomson N 'A'	37⅝	37⅝
Walker Hiram	25⅞	25½
WCT	15	14⅛

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Pensions

When the Saints plan retirement

Sun Life, which runs one of the better pension plans for the self-employed, has come up with a useful addition.

A range of unitized funds is already available to investors in the Sun Life pension scheme and Sun Life has now added the option of a fund which invest in the shares of the Scottish American Investment Company. It is called the Saints Personal Pension Plan.

The appeal of any investment trust is the gearing and if you add the tax relief on pension contributions, you are buying a lot of assets for each pound invested.

Scottish American shares stand at a discount on their asset value of more than 25 per cent. This means that for every £100 invested in the Saints plan, before tax relief, the policyholder will obtain the benefit of £125 of assets. Add to this the tax relief at a minimum of 30 per cent and every net contribution of £100 buys about £190 worth of assets.

The twist is that if you are a Scottish American shareholder, you can transfer your holding to the pension scheme and add additional contributions – all at a 3 per cent discount.

Business booklets

Three new booklets from the Institute of Chartered Accountants will be of particular use to small businesses. *Directors' Transactions* sets out the legislation for each category of transaction. It covers loans, quasi-loans, credit transactions, property transactions, disclosure and the responsibilities of the auditor. *Payments on Termination of Employment* gives details of the 1982 legislation and deals with the circumstances and amount of any payment, applications of PAYE, tax relief and other problem areas. *Statutory Sick Pay* reviews the circumstances in which independent accountants may become involved in a company's sick pay arrangements. *Directors Transactions*, £5 – *Payments on Termination of Employment* £2.75 – *Statutory Sick Pay*, £2; all available from the Publications Department, Institution of Chartered Accountants, PO Box 433, Chartered Accountants Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2P 2BJ.

Insurance package

Housebuyers who borrow from Lloyds Bank will be offered a complete insurance package covering buildings, contents, and monthly loan repayments if the borrower is unable to work through disability or unemployment.

The buildings cover is a fairly standard £1.50 a year for each £1,000 of insurance, but the contents cover looks expensive at £3.50 to £11 per £1,000 (depending where you live). It is difficult to evaluate the unemployment and disability cover. The most similar type of policy is a permanent health plan which provides monthly benefits if you are unable to work through illness.

To provide £100 a month permanent health cover for a 39-year-old should not cost much more than £50 a year. By comparison, the Lloyds unemployment/disability cover of £100 a month costs £66 a year (£5.50 a month) but benefits are paid for only 12 months if unemployed or 24 months for disability or sickness. A permanent health policy would pay benefits for the rest of your working life if necessary.

Card guard

Credit card theft must be booming, as a second "insurance" scheme to cope with this eventuality has just been launched, competing with the existing Card Protection Plan.

The newcomer, Cardstop, charges £12 a year and like Card Protection Plan, keeps a list of all your credit cards, cheque cards, cash dispenser machine cards and store account cards. If your cards are stolen you phone a 24-hour hotline, and Cardstop instantly notifies the card companies by telex that the card should be cancelled. The £12 annual fee also give you indemnity cover for up to £100 for each card registered. Details from Cardstop, Southgate Chambers, 37/39 Southgate Street, Winchester, Hants. Tel: 0962 68558.

Fund for ventures

A £7.3m fund has been set up to provide finance for unquoted companies, by Hoare Govett the stockbrokers and Candover Investments, the management buyout specialists.

The joint venture find, called Hoare Andover, will invest in management buyouts and provide development capital for manufacturing or service companies. It will support advanced technology ventures, but it will not confine itself to them.

Finance will be within the range £100,000 to £735,000.

Further details from: Hoare Candover Exempt Fund, 4-7 Red Lion Court, London EC4A 3EB. Tel: 583 5090.

Charitable tender

People who want to get rid of their old halfpennies (soon to be withdrawn from circulation) can take them into any branch of National & Provincial which will give the whole amount direct to charity through collecting boxes at the branches. The collection will be organized regionally to benefit local charities.

The Royal Mint will stop producing the halfpenny on March 29 and it will cease to be legal tender before the end of the year. National & Provincial's scheme could raise more than £500,000 for charity.



Elgar for charity

Anthony Quayle, the actor, will play the role of Sir Edward Elgar in a charity concert to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the composer's death. The sponsor is Diners Club, which will be giving £5,000 to the Save the Children Bone Marrow Unit Appeal, for Westminster Hospital.

The concert is on February 23 at Westminster Abbey, in the presence of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

A 10% chance

A new variation on the building society regular savings scheme gives lump sum investors in the 50-plus age bracket the chance of earning 10 per cent net of basic rate tax on their money. The company which provides the insurance cover is giving concessionary rates.

Run by Leicester Building Society, the investor puts £2,000 to £10,000 in a high-yielding Leicester-card Tempus account which pays 8.25 per cent net of basic rate tax. This is used to fund regular premiums into the Zurich Life Building Society linked scheme, with the investor picking up the benefits of life assurance premium relief along the way. The account can be cashed in at any time after the first four years without penalty for basic rate taxpayers.

Rebuilding protection

Anglia Building Society is offering its borrowers the chance to insure their homes for full rebuilding cost – whatever that might amount to. The new policy which costs £1.80 a year for each £1,000 of cover compared with standard cover at £1.50, guarantees to meet rebuilding costs in full.

To qualify, the initial sum insured must not be less than the rebuilding costs provided by the society's valuer and must be index-linked. The building must be of standard construction and the sum insured adjusted in the event of extension or improvement.

The policy will be available to new borrowers from March, and existing borrowers will be able to transfer to the new contract, subject to a sum-insured review.

Budget insurance

The general feeling is that the Chancellor will in the Budget clamp down on the advantageous "discounted gift" capital transfer tax avoidance schemes.

Medical and Professional Insurance Brokers has come up with a plan which allows you to invest now, but if there is anything nasty in the Budget which affects these schemes retrospectively, you will be able to back out.

The Legal and General scheme is the best known of the few on offer and Medical and Professional says it has negotiated for its clients who invest now the right to withdraw for up to two weeks after the Budget. Anyone wanting to know more should get in touch with Medical and Professional at its Liverpool head office.

World cover

Insurers are at least waking up to the fact that there is considerable demand for year-round travel insurance from those who go abroad frequently. Pickfords Travel has just launched a policy designed for the business traveller. It covers all the normal risks – medical expenses, loss of money and baggage, third party liability, accident insurance, and cancellation – but is not cheap, at £86 a year for cover in Europe and the Mediterranean, or £116 worldwide.

And it does not begin to compare with the Centurion cover available to American Express cardholders who for an annual premium of just £35 get £50,000 worth of medical fees insurance worldwide. Baggage and other risks can be covered as optional extras for a small extra premium. This policy must give the best value availabe, and it is worth joining American Express just to get the cover.

Fixed rate at Spa

Do not miss the chance of receiving a guaranteed 9 per cent net of basic rate tax with Leamington Spa Building Society's new fixed rate, one year Spa Bond. Most building society bonds offer a guaranteed differential over the societies' ordinary share tate, but the interest rate is otherwise variable.

Leamington Spa's bond is, however, paying a fixed rate of return guaranteed for the 12 months. These offers are usually fully subscribed quickly so do not waste time.

Minimum investment is £2,000 with a £30,000 per person maximum, or £60,000 for a married couple.

If you cannot afford the minimum of £2,000 then Birmingham and Bridgwater Building Society is offering a fixed rate share account paying 8.6 per cent, net of basic rate tax, for a minimum investment of only £500. Like the Leamington Spa's bond, it is a 12-month investment.

£23 billion question

The building societies are all set to lend £23 billion during the coming 12 months – but they do not know whether it will be enough to satisfy demand. "The major difference between the mortgage market and other markets currently is that statements from the suppliers of mortgage finance about the availability of their product have a direct influence on the number of customers entering the market. A building society executive has only to say to the press that mortgage queues are declining at his society to ensure that within a few days the very opposite is the case," an article in the BSA's *Bulletin* says.

Currency bond

Fund manager Patrick Whittingdale, who has been successful at managing gilts for Lloyd's members, is launching a currency bond fund this year. This follows the successful debut of his short-dated gilt unit trust which pulled in £10m from higher rate taxpayers and members of Lloyd's within months of its launch last September.

Remortgage offer

Do you need some cash to buy a car, build a garage or pay for your holiday? Insurance broker Chase de Vere has money available for remortgages (get some of the equity out of your house) at 12 per cent. You will not get tax relief on that part of the loan which is used to buy a car, but it is still cheap borrowing. Tax relief is available only on "qualifying" loans used to purchase or improve your home.

For straightforward house purchase, Chase de Vere has funds available at 11.5 per cent and in both cases the loan would be linked to a with-profits endowment policy of your choice.

The minimum loan is £15,000 with a maximum of £125,000. You can borrow up to three times your earnings – and if you are married, all of a wife's earnings will be taken into account if she is a professional person or above childbearing age.

Details from Chase de Vere, 125 Pall Mall, London SW1. Tel 01 930 7242.

Piggy banking

In spite of the fact that it is poor value for money, 250,000 children have been persuaded to open a Piggy Bank account with the NatWest. The account pays only the basic seven-day deposit rate of 5.5 per cent when 7.25 per cent is easily obtained from a building society. To add insult to injury, the child is expected to pay £1 for the starter pack and a piggy money box.

Tax guide

Tips for entertainers

Is the winner of the Booker prize taxed on the £10,000 he receives? Can Mick Jagger write off his hairdressing costs? If you want to know the answers, get hold of a copy of accountantant Arthur Andersen's *Taxation of Entertainers.*

The book emphsizes the tax planning opportuntes that may arise. For example, a self-employed entertainer may be able to bring his wife into a business partnership and save tax by electing for her earnings to be taxed separately.

هكذا من الأصل

FAMILY MONEY

Currencies

Dealers who dice with the US dollar prepare to fend off effects of a tumble

The dollar has been riding high on the international currency markets, but all the experts agree that it is heading for a fall.

The big questions are: when will it fall and by how much? Managers of the large currency funds have been shifting the mix of their currencies to reflect their view of the world currency market.

Some funds, such as Hill Samuel, have never held the dollar. Fund manager Mr George Stephens said: "We have always regarded the dollar with real suspicion. That has been a mistake. We have missed out on some currency strengths." Others such as Target and Schroder have not held dollars for some months.

Mr John Gittings of Target Managed Currency Fund said: "We have been looking for a break in the dollar. Under current conditions it is difficult for a currency manager to pinpoint the breaking point."

He wanted to anticipate any slide in the value of the dollar and admits that by getting out of dollars some months ago he got out too early.

Mr Peter Burrows of Brown Shipley, like the other experts, expects the dollar to crack, but he still believes there are profits to be made from it. His fund held dollars until mid-November, had none at the turn of the year, and now holds 20 per cent of the fund in dollars. "Most of the professionals are saying that it is going to crack but they are not prepared to put any date on it."

The dollar is performing a balancing act supported by high interest rates, international tension and debt crises and a feeling of political stability in the US. Yet, pulling in the other direction, America has a huge budget dificit and a balance of payments problem.

Mr Burrows is a long term bear of the dollar, believing that the US cannot escape from the basic laws of economies. "If the country was anywhere other than the US in the mid-80s, the one thing that is certain is that the currency would be cracking. Some people say that because the US is special it cannot happen – but I cannot believe that the States is impervious to economic rules."

He would advise a small investor to be ready to get out of dollars but to hang on as long as possible. If you wait until there are definate signs that the dollar is on the turn you will probably only miss the first two or three percetage points of the slide – and will have done very well out of the holding.

The Guinness Mahon fund has already limited its exposure to the dollar. At the beginning of the year 30 per cent of the fund was held in dollars and 40 per cent in yen which the fund manager, Mr Howard Flight, regards as a dollar-linked currency. "For a number of reasons we felt that the possibility of the dollar weakening was greater than the market perceived. The fund has now cut its holding of dollars back to 25 per cent and the yen back to the same level.

"The beauty of the yen is that of all the main currencies it is the cheapest against the dollar. If the dollar falls out of bed it will strengthen, but while it is strong the yen is moving in line with the dollar. You have it both ways.

The Royal Bank of Canada's currency fund is essentially a dollar fund. It invests in other currencies only to take advantage of dips in the dollar. It has been actively dealing since January 31 when the fund held 8 per cent in Deutschemarks and 17 per cent in yen. The following day the fund bought 12 per cent sterling and increased its Deutschemark holding to 17 per cent. It sold the Deutschemarks after five days to take a profit leaving a holding of 16 per cent in yen and 12 per cent in sterling until Tuesday when the two currencies were sold at a profit. The fund now stands at 83 per cent dollars and 17 per cent Deutschemarks.

"We take our profits wherever we can", said Mr Roger Arundale, fund manager.

"We do not see any reason why the dollar should come down at the moment. When it does go it will go fairly sharpish. We are watching it by the hour."

The minimum investment in these managed currency funds ranges from £500 for Schroder to £2,500 for Guinness Mahon. But, of course, you can make your own decisions and invest directly in the currency of your choice through one of the do-it-yourself funds where you choose the mix of currencies. Rothschild's Old Court International Reserves has the widest choice of currencies and has some of the lowest charges.

Vivien Goldsmith

MANAGED CURRENCY FUNDS

Fund	US dollar	sterling	yen	deutschemark	guilder	Swiss franc
Guinness Mahon International Fund	25%	17½%	25%	22½%	10%	
Target Managed Currency Fund	–	47%	32%	21%	–	
Royal Bank of Canada International Currency Fund	83%	–	–	17%	–	
Schroder Managed Currency Fund	–	21.5%	33.7%	29%	10.3%	5.5%
Hill Samuel International Currency Fund	–	28%	48%	24%	–	–
Brown Shipley International Currency Fund	20%	24%	34%	22%	–	–

Savings

Friendly perks for investors

The Savers Assurance Society, one of the new breed of tax-exempt friendly societies, has linked-up with Aitken Hume investment management to offer investors what it describes as "the best of both worlds".

Plan 2000 is a 10-year contract with all the usual perks – the friendly society pays neither corporation nor capital gains taxes and the proceeds of the plan are entirely tax-free. It aims to offer security by investing 50 per cent in gilts through top broker Greenwell and high growth with 50 per cent in Aitken Hume's American and Japanese technology Funds.

Being a friendly society plan providing an extra 42 per cent growth over taxed funds growing at the same rate, there is a drawback. There is a limit to the sum you can invest. It is £288 for 20 to 50 year olds and £311 for 60-year-olds (the maximum age), and you have to either be married or have dependent children.

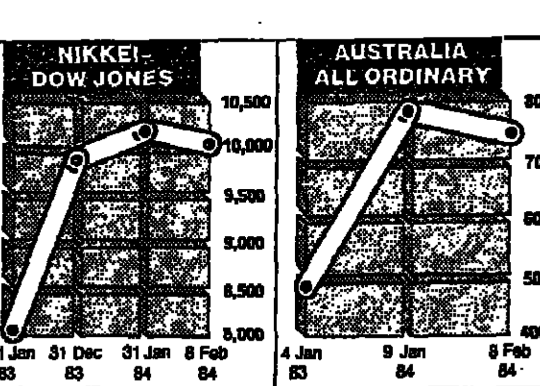
Management charges take a startling 90 per cent of the first year's premium, with a further 4 per cent going to cover life assurance premiums – leaving just 6 per cent to be invested. But, after this, 103.5 per cent of premiums are invested. For the single premium variation, the maximum lump sum is between £1,860 and £1,940 which brings a discount of 25 per cent.

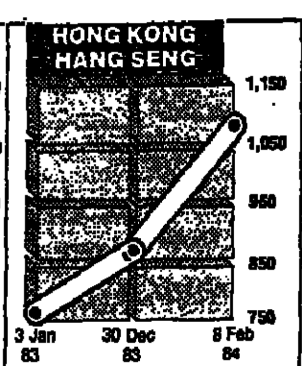
There are fierce penalties for surrendering the policy before the 10 years are up - only gross premium payments are refundable

FAMILY MONEY

Shares

FT ALL SHARE · FT INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY · DOW JONES INDEX · STANDARD AND POORS





State of the markets round the world since the beginning of last year.

Wall Street slide fails to shake long-term outlook of investors

Has the great share bubble burst? This is the question everyone is asking in a week when Wall Street dropped more than 30 points and the British market showed signs of following suit.

President Reagan's refusal to take steps to curb the United States budget deficit was the cause of the trouble, aggravated by Mr Paul Volcker's strong criticism of the President's policies.

As chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Mr Volcker's views carry enormous weight and in a swingeing attack on the president's fiscal policies he denounced them as "inadequate."

This is a fight that the President had hoped to put off until after the autumn election, and the immediate reaction was for the dollar to slide along with share prices as investors scented trouble ahead.

But not everyone thinks the decline will necessarily continue. Mr Ian Maxwell Scott of the stockbroker, Scrimgeour Kemp Gee, says: "We have already taken some of our funds out of the US, but we do not see this as the beginning of a long bear market. We think it will stabilize and at this stage we are saying stick with it.

"We would like to see the dollar steady, but I think probably the days of stable currencies are over. Longer term we see the dollar reaching parity with the pound by the end of the decade", he says.

But Mr Maxwell Scott is not gloomy about the prospects for US shares: "We see areas of growth, especially in the high technology stocks which have taken quite a beating recently and when things settle down, we would be happy to buy again. We are not expecting a long slide on Wall Street", he says.

Neither is Mr Peter Edwards of Premier Unit Trust Brokers, though for his discretionaly clients he has already reduced their American exposure to no more than 20 per cent of their portfolios. He says: "We were unhappy some months ago with the US and decided to hedge our bets and go further into Japan.

His clients are now 50 per cent invested in Japan, 25 per cent in Britain and only 20 per cent in the US. For those still heavily invested in the US his advice is switch into Japan – and hurry.

Longer term, however, he is quite bullish about the US. "I think if Reagsan is forced to give a bit on the budget deficit and the situation stabilizes, you could have a very good 1985 on Wall Street."

"We have not panicked" is the reaction from Mr Alan Torry, who manages the successful Prolific Unit Trusts. "We have not taken any significant liquidity. I think this is a relatively short reaction and it could easily bounce back. It does still appear to be the cheapest market historically", he says.

He thinks there will be continuing uncertainty until both the American election and the budget deficit problem are out of the way, but after the autumn, things could look much brighter.

This is a view shared by Mr Stuart Goldsmith, Investment Director of unit trust group, Britannia. He says: "In the short term the slide on Wall Street is a reaction to the tightness of monetary policy over the last few months. Combined with the budget deficit problems, the realization has dawned that this could mean a period of low growth."

He believes, however, that this is a short-term readjustment. "Later in the year they will take some action, even if it announces tax increases for 1985. I would say this is a temporary situation", he says.

What of our own stock market? "We are much further into the bull market here and we would not be altogether surprised to see a 15 per cent decline in our market. But none of the problems confronting the US apply in Britain, Mr Goldsmith says.

Though the outlook is generally good, Mr Goldsmith believes that there are technical factors involved here. "We have seen quite a differential developing between bonds and equities and the relative risk/reward ratio has temporarily tipped in favour of gilts. You may well see the British market drop further in percentage terms than the US, but I think it will all come right", he says.

Lorna Bourke

Banking

An account with a cunning twist

The high-interest cheque account launched by the Midland this week should raise a cheer from anyone with a bank account. For it is sure to provoke a rapid response from the other big banks and hasten the changes in personal banking services, which are steadily increasing the choices open to customers.

Available to both customers and non-customers, the Midland account is by no means the first of its kind. Money-fund or high-interest cheque accounts have been on offer for some time from several merchant banks, unit trusts and the Bank of Scotland; Co-operative Bank, one of the pioneers in this field, has been offering its own version of an interest-bearing current account for some time. National Westminster also offers its Cashwise account, but this pays a poor rate of interest.

Midland, however, has started something which the other big banks cannot afford to ignore.

Customers have to keep at least £2,000 in the new account and interest is payable at 9 per cent (9.3 per cent Annual Percentage Rate). You can write as many cheques as you like for a minimum of £200 as well as being able to cash one cheque daily for £200 at Midland branches. There are no charges on the account, although there is a stiff penalty for falling below the £2,000 minimum: the interest rate drops to the seven-day deposit rate of 5.5 per cent until the minimum is restored.

This appears to be aimed at the richer customers, but Midland has been rather cunning by offering with the high interest account an ordinary current account which is free of charges providing it is kept in credit. This broadens the appeal to those who perhaps have money saved in a building society, but are prepared to sacrifice some interest (society ordinary share accounts pay the equivalent of 10.35 per cent gross) to obtain free current account banking and the facilities that go with it at a big clearing bank.

Meanwhile others are already looking at ways of bettering Midland's scheme. Later this month Save & Prosper, which together with Robert Fleming, the banker, offers a high interest cheque account, plans to unwrap a revamped model. This will include a guaranteed overdraft and Visa card which it believes will mark a significant break with the traditional structure of bank accounts.

Elsewhere there was a pleasant surprise for Yorkshire Bank's customers this week when it announced that its 210 branches were becoming so busy that it was extending opening hours by an extra 45 minutes each day. The new hours, from 9.15am to 4.00pm, will start from April 2.

Yorkshire's success is due to it keeping it sweet and simple; its free banking for customers who stay in credit has proved a winner. But from March 13, charges are going up for those who do not stay in credit, with the cost of each debit up from 25p to 28p and automated debits rising from 18p to 3p.

Peter Wilson-Smith

Benefits

Cuts confusion for 2.2m victims

Local authorities have started this week working out what the Government's cuts in housing benefit will mean this April and November for 2.2 million recipients of what is easily the most complicated, incomprehensible and contentious of all the benefits in the £37 billion social security system.

It is not proving easy. At present 6.75 million households – one in three – receive help with rent and rates through housing benefit. It chews up £4 billion a year in public spending.

And ministers justifying their cuts – which will now total £195m this year and £215m next, instead of the £230m originally proposed – have been quick to point out that it goes higher up the income scale than any other means-tested benefit.

–An example of one family, in exceptional circumstances – three wage earners each bringing in £5,000 a year, giving a joint household income of £15,000 but still receive benefit – has been quoted by Dr Rhodes Boyson to show just how far up the scale it can go.

Under the new proposals, much of that will change. Nearly 500,000 households will lose housing benefit altogether. But another 2.2 million with incomes well below average and including 1.3 million pensioners, will see their benefit reduced. In some cases the losses will be substantial.

The April changes will be limited, the full impact not falling until November, although how hard they will hit then is confused by the fact that the Government is to hold talks with the local authorities to try to limit the cumulative impact of the changes on individuals.

The Social Security Advisory Committee – the Government's watchdog in these matters – castigated the original proposals and recommended that no-one should lose more than £2 a week.

Housing charities and local authorities have been quick to produce examples where that will happen.

For while the Government argues that the average loss in April will be only 70p, and that under 5 per cent will see a cut of over £2 then, the impact will be greater in November. The Government's figures also do not allow for the increased contributions it is expecting non-dependents – mostly children who have left school and often elderly relatives – to make to the household budget following increases in the deductions in benefit for these groups that are part of the changes.

Among the victims will be many pensioners with income from savings or occupational pension schmes. SHAC, the London Housing Aid Centre, says, for example, that a single pensioner with a retirement and occupational pension producing an income of £4,000 a year (£76.92 a week), and paying £23 a week in rent and rates, will lose £2.33 a week in April, rising to £3.32 a week from November.

A family with one child at school and a 17-year-old living at home with an income of £135 a week, paying £33 rent and rates will lose £2.95 a week in April and £7.28 from November, on present plans. Examples of losses of up to £10 a week have been quoted by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

FAMILY MONEY

Portable pensions

Inquiry team sifts 1,500 opinions in quest for a better retirement deal

The subcommittee of five at the Department of Health and Social Security is going to have its work cut out to get through the 1.500 letters and submissions sent in by pensions experts and the public on the thorny question of portable pensions. Submissions had to be made by January 31, and now the team, with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, as chairman, is getting down to analysing the evidence and coming to a reasonably quick decision on the best way of giving a better pensions deal to those who change jobs or retire early.

There is general agreement that something has to be done for those who change jobs, leaving a trail of frozen pension benefits. Inflation rapidly erodes the buying power of these benefits and many job changers end up with no pension worth mentioning.

The other members of the subcommittee are Mr Barney Hayhoe Minister of State at the Treasury, Mr Marshall field, chairman of the Occupational Pensions Joint Working Group, Professor Alan Peacock, vice-chancellor of the University of Buckingham, and Mr Mark Weinberg of Hambro Life. Portable pensions have been picked out for special examination by the Inquiry into Provision for Retirement, also under the chairmanship of Mr Fowler.

Of the submissions made to the inquiry, the most radical have come from the Liberal Party's Social Services and Taxation Panel which recommends abolishing the state earnings-related pension scheme and using the money saved to increase the basic pension by 25 per cent. It also wants to see membership of occupational schemes made optional, and employers being obliged by law to contribute up to 3 per cent of an employee's wages to a private pension arrangement where the employee has opted out of the company pension scheme.



Pensions review: Mr Norman Fowler (chairman, front) with his team, from left, Mr Marshall Field, Mr Mark Weinberg, Mr Barney Hayhoe, and Professor Alan Peacock

One of the most comprehensive reviews has been submitted by Richards Longstaff, the pensions experts with considerable experience of setting up, and operating, portable pensions schemes.

The big debate is whether it is wise to shift from a final salary scheme where pension is linked to earnings just before retirement date, to a "money purchase" arrangement. This would be necessary once people were making their own pension arrangements or moving their entitlement from an occupational scheme into their own personal plan.

At the moment, only those in an occupational scheme can enjoy a pension linked to their final salary. The self-employed have to be content with a "money purchase" type scheme whether they like it or not, as the cost of providing final salary benefits can be underwritten only by an employer who is prepared to pump more money into the fund if insufficient has been set aside to provide the promised pension.

Richards Longstaff would like to see employed and self-employed treated on the same basis. At the moment employees are restricted to the amount of pension they can draw, whereas the self-employed have no such restriction but are limited in the amount they can save with tax relief to provide that pension.

Richards Longstaff believes that both the employed and self-employed should be restricted in the amount of contributions made to a pension scheme rather than limited on the benefit side. But they would like to see much higher limits than are currently allowed the self-employed. Anyone under 30 should be free to put away up to 25 per cent of annual pensionable earnings in an approved pension scheme, rising to 50 per cent of earnings for those over the age of 60. At the moment the self-employed limit for most people is 17½ per cent.

They also want to see much more flexibility on retirement ages, with employers obliged to offer lump sum transfer values to employees which can be invested in their own pension scheme when changing jobs. They would also like to see much greater investment freedom.

On this last point, there are many who advocate the American system where everyone is allowed tax relief on contributions (up to a certain level) made to a special pension account. This pension account can be held with a bank, and a number of other approved institutions, and the money can be used to invest in a wide range of securities.

Surprisingly, the building societies, which might be the main beneficiary of any relaxation in pension rules, have come down in favour of maintainging the status quo. The objection to portable pensions is that a job-changer with a large lump sum to invest from his previous employer would be easy prey for the hoards of cowboy investment advisers.

The Building Societies Association is also sceptical about whether people will actually make any provision at all for their retirement unless they are compelled to.

The giants of the pensions industry, the insurance companies, are opposed to any thing that will transfer money out of existing occupational pension schemes (which they manage for fat fees) into the hands of other investment institutions.

The most likely outcome of the inquiry will be ratification of the Occupational Pensions Board's recommendations with a few frills added. This would mean that employers wold be obliged to uprate the frozen pension benefits of early leavrs by the lesser of 5 per cent a year or the rate of inflation. This might be coupled with a banning of any compulsion to join a pension scheme, giving all new entrants to pension schemes the right to opt out and make their own pension arrangements.

The more knotty problem is whether employers will be obliged to make contributions to the personal pension plans of employees who have opted out of the company pension scheme. It may well be that the Government will decide that this could impose too great a financial burden on the large numbers of small firms which have no pension scheme, but would also be required to contribute.

Lorna Bourke

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Aspinall Holdings 10p Ord (115a)	140
Assoc Energy 5p Ord (158a)	70
BP 25p Ord (435*)	435
CML Microsystems (130*a)	198+13
Cable & Wireless 50p Ord (275*) £1 paid	145+12
Dapsers Inc Com Stk $0.05	78
Gibbs Mew 25p Ord (240a)	210−2
Grosvenor Squar 10p Ord (91a)	97
Henara 10p Ord (95)	93
High-Point Services 10p Ord (137a)	140−2
Johnson & Jorgensen 10p Ord (85a)	80
Kenyon Securities 25p Ord (139a)	178
MME Facilities 10p Ord (40a)	44
Moray Firth Maltings 50p Ord (195a)	224
Synterials 10p Ord (100a)	85
Tyne Tees 100p "A" NV (135a)	160
Unibond 25p Ord (105a)	108
Valin Pollen Int 5p Ord (110a)	155
Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	17

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Rewards of debt for the adventurous

Institutions and individuals with a taste for contrary thinking may be intrigued by a new bond fund being marketed by Drexel Burnham Lambert, the American investment bank and securities dealer. Called the High-Yield Income Fund and technically being promoted by Finsbury Group, a vehicle specially set up by Drexel in Bermuda, the fund will specialize in debt issued by troubled smallish and mainly unrecognized American companies.

If that sounds risky, it should be remembered that similar funds have boomed over the last five or six years in the United States. More than $50,000 is now under management in them. Typically, they yield between 300 and 400 basis points more than AAA bonds and in the past five years have outperformed funds investment in AAA bonds.

The portfolio of the new fund, which is specifically aimed at Europeans wishing to climb on to the high-yield bandwagon, will closely resemble its American counterparts. The two biggest slices will be 25 per cent in emerging credits, lesser known companies which have been undervalued by credit rating agencies, and 20 per cent in "busted convertibles".

In the wonderful jargon of Wall Street, busted convertibles are convertible stock whose underlying value has fallen so far that they trade essentially on a yield basis. Another 15 per cent of the initial portfolio will be invested in troubled credits, companies the rating of whose bonds have been downgraded because of apparent financial predicaments.

It is at this point that one could become a little nervous, and equanimity is unlikely to be restored by the discovery that 5 per cent of the High Yield Income Fund is to be put into what are frankly called "bankruptcy situations". How can such a fund be less risky than AAA bonds?

Well, the answer appears chiefly to lie in the type and intensity of the financial analysis to which a company's debt is subjected. The prime concern is not so much whether the company is profitable – indeed that might sully the attractions of its debt – but whether it can service its obligations. Analysis might reveal, for instance, that a certain line of superior debt is guaranteed by assets. Such debt may easily be undervalued by the market.

These funds can therefore yield about 12 per cent on income and 15 per cent on capital gains – which is what Drexel hopes the Finsbury fund will achieve. In fact, extra leverage could raise the overall return to 40 per cent.

But as befits a reputable firm, Drexel is treading gently. It is aiming for $25m in subscriptions before the present closing date of February 17. Investment is in shares of $100, to be quoted in Luxembourg, in minimum lots of $150,000. The fund is designed to be free of United States witholding tax, and there is no redemption charge.

Investors do, however, pay a front-end fee of 3 per cent of the value of their investment, and after that the fund pays an annuyal charge of 0.625 per cent to Drexel. The managers, who are First Investors Management and Solomon Asset Management and who are under no obligation to trade through Drexel, receive 0.5 per cent each from the fund. The idea may catch on among more adventurous European investors.

Wagon Finance

After dashing some to the market's hopes in the first half, Wagon Finance has romped home for the whole year. Pretax profits of £2m are double those made last year, and the trend is definitely upwards, so long as interest rates do not rise unexpectedly.

The increase in Wagon's turnover from £18.8m to £22m somewhat understates the company's position. With about 80 per cent of its business concentrated on vehicle finance Wagon has been well placed to take advantage of the boom in car registrations, and the recovery in commercial vehicle orders.

More important for the longer term, perhaps, the eight new branches which have been opened over the last two years are now covering their costs. Allowing for the amalgamation of a few branches in 1983, Wagon now has 39 outlets.

Against that, the company must cope with the costs of complying with the next year's changes under the Consumer Credit Act. But it enjoys the cushion of unearned finance charges up from £16.7m to £17.9m, while instalment credit balances rose sharply by some £9m to £97.4m

By increasing the dividend from 9.25 per cent to 10 per cent (2.5p net) while the share price rose 3p to 49p, the directors have ensured that shareholders receive an attractive 7.3 per cent yield. But, as always with fianance companies, much will depend on how the market views interest rates for the rest of the year.

Stock Market report page 22

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Money Market Rates

Other Markets

Dollar Spot Rates

Euro-$ Deposits

Gold

هكذا من الأصل

FAMILY MONEY

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account – no interest paid. Deposit accounts – Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 5½ per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. National Girobank 6 per cent. Lloyds extra interest 9 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9⅛ per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 – 1 month *8.0, 3 months* 8.25, 6 months 8.5 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund	*Flat*	*APR*	*Telephone*
Aitken Hume monthly inc	8.75	9.11	01 638 6070
B of Scotland	8.80	9.16	01 628 8060
Britannia call	8.875	9.245	01 588 2777
Mallinhall call	8.85	9.19	01 499 6634
Oppenheimer Simco High interest *deposit account*	8.72	8.91	01 236 3887
S & P call	8.62	9.0	0708 65966
Schroder Wagg	8.63	9.04	01 382 6226
over £10,000	*8.88*	*9.30*	*01 382 6226*
Tullet & Riley	8.84	9.07	01 236 0952
T & R 7 day	8.88	9.11	01 236 0952
Tyndall 7 day	9.0	9.3	0272 732241
Tyndall call	8.78		0272 732241
UDT 7 day	8⅝	8.91	01 623 3020
Western Trust 1 month	8.75	9.11	0752 261161

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts – interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1984, *otherwise 3 per* cent. Investment Account – 11% interest paid without deduction of tax. 1 month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 26th Issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.26 per cent, *maximum investment £5,000.*

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £2,000 – max. £200,000. Interest – 11½ per cent variable at *six weeks notice – paid* monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice – check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1984 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1983 and October 1984 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in January 1979, £176.70 including bonus and supplement.

National Savings Deposit Bond
Minimum investment £500 max *£50,000, 11½ per cent variable at* six weeks notice. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice. Half interest only paid on bonds repaid during the first year.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a *further liability on maturity.*
2 years English Insurance 8.4 per cent. 3 years Imperial Life 9.3 per cent. 4 years American Life 9.0 per cent. 5 years British National 9.0 *per cent.*

Local authority yearling bonds 12-*month fixed rate investments*, interest 9⅞ per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority ***town hall bonds*** Fixed term, fixed rate investments, *interest quoted gross* (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Neath 10 per cent. 2 years Kent CC 10¼ per cent. 3 years Kirklees 10¾ per cent. *4-5 years Tameside 10½* per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Loans Bureau (01-828 7855 after 3pm) see also on Prestel no 24808.

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts – 7.25 per cent. Term shares – between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. *Regular savings schemes* – 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Extra interest accounts, 1 to 1.25 per cent above ordinary account. Rates quoted *above are those most commonly* offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Investors in industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 10¼ per cent; 4-5 *years, 10¾ per cent; 6-10 years,* 11 per cent; Further information from 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. *Five-Fifty scheme*: 6 months 9¼ per cent; 1 year, 9½ per cent; 2 years, 10 *per cent.*

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Intl. Reserves 0481 26741. seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

Sterling	8.15 per cent
US dollar	8.61 per cent
Yen	4.95 per cent
D Mark	4.53 per cent
French Franc	11.44 per cent
Swiss Franc	1.12 per cent

December RPI: 342.8 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

FOOTBALL: PREVIEW OF TODAY'S FIRST DIVISION GAMES

Arsenal running scared into unsteady champions

By Clive White

On the face of it, Joe Fagan, the Liverpool manager, should sleep more comfortably this weekend. While his team welcome an Arsenal side running scared of putting a foot wrong, his three closest enemies must all tread dangerous territory, none more so than Nottingham Forest on that infamous artificial pitch at Loftus Road.

But Fagan, who admitted before their recent indifferent spell that he was feeling the strain, knows that Liverpool's own step has rarely been as unsure as it has been these past five weeks without the cunning of Dalglish.

The midweek home draw with Walsall must have been of enormous encouragement to lesser mortals as Liverpool were seen to be capable of human error. Arsenal, who a few years ago were one of the few not to break out into a cold sweat when contemplating a trip to Anfield, go there today fearing more their own failure than the success of the opposition.

They should be uplifted by their unjust home defeat by Queen's Park Rangers last week and the knowledge that the best of their recent form has been away from the intimidating atmosphere of Highbury. Many Arsenal supporters will feel that the absence through injury of Meade and Kay will not weaken their chances. Cork and Hill take over.

The Arsenal faithful must wait a week for the debut of Paul Mariner, newly acquired from Ipswich Town. Mariner, to the surprise of many of his detractors, will justify his relatively small fee but large salary if only by taking the heat off Nicholas. Nicholas's Scottish captain, Souness, will continue to rest his hamstring strain; but Liverpool can recall the influential Lawrenson.

Nottingham Forest, the only team capable of pulling level on points at least with Liverpool, come to London with four successive away wins behind them and with their manager and motivator, Brian Clough, still insisting that they are championship material. Seldom can a team have been placed so high yet felt so little pressure.

Yet the unpredictable Clough said confidently yesterday of the treacherous plastic pitch: "We have no qualms about playing on it." Rangers's own championship ambitions and current form of four home wins in the last five will make this the day's focal point.

West Ham United, who handled the irregular twists and turns of the Rangers track competently in midweek, take a short drive up the M6 to Coventry knowing that they must steer past the opposition if they are to stay in the race. Bobby Gould, the Coventry manager, boldly drops three of his unknown "stars" and recalls experience in Daly, Allardyce and Grimes.

If Manchester United's players can forget about which master they will be serving next week, their manager, Ron Atkinson, apparently cannot. With the acumen of a Robert Maxwell he is threatening to keep United in the forefront of the news, if not the first division, by making a £1m bid for Luton Town's Paul Walsh after the televised match at Kenilworth Road on Sunday. It would appear that the Bedfordshire club with Milton Keynes on their mind are not the only one on the move.

United decide

A decision on who takes control of Manchester United is likely to be taken before next Wednesday. Martin Edwards, United's chairman, received a letter yesterday from the Manchester business consortium, who claimed they could match any bid from Robert Maxwell.

Bremner is fined £500 and warned

Billy Bremner, the manager of Doncaster Rovers, has been fined £500 by the Football Association for making foul and abusive comments to match officials after the fourth division game at Swindon on December 3. Dave Bentley, Bremner's assistant, was fined £100 for the same offence and both have been warned as to their future conduct.

It is the third time Bremner has been found guilty of this offence. He was fined £200 in 1979 and the same amount two years later. Ironically, Bremner was last weekend named fourth division Manager of the Month for January.

Ray Hankin, the Peterborough United forward, has been fined £275 for swearing after his side's fourth division defeat at Northampton on December 27. Hankin was sent off for persistent misconduct during the game.

Joe Royle, the Oldham Athletic manager, was warned as to his future conduct after displaying ungentlemanly conduct towards the referee at the second division game against Sheffield Wednesday on January 2.

Don Howe, the Arsenal manager, who has been accused of foul and abusive comments after the match at Stoke last Saturday, has declined the chance of a personal hearing.

Bremner: third offence

Fixture wrangle must be forgotten for the moment

By Hugh Taylor

Aberdeen and Celtic yesterday tried to forget a wrangle which threatens to bring an embarrassing collision between the Scottish Football Association and the Scottish League. Both clubs are upset at the League's decision that they must play the second leg of their League Cup semi-final at Parkhead on February 28, only 24 hours after the Scotland-Wales international at Hampden.

As Aberdeen and Celtic will almost certainly provide around 11 players between them for the international squad, they say they will apply for the release of them all. However, the Scotland manager, Jock Stein, is adamant he will select his strongest squad. "With the World Cup qualifying tournament coming up next season, the match with Wales is important to us" he said.

Defending the timing of the League Cup semi-final, the League secretary, James Farry, said: "It was the reluctant decision, but the club's could not agree on dates following the many postponements so we had no alternative."

The underlying, and possibly everlasting problem is that there are far too many fixtures on the Scottish calendar. Surely it is nonsense to be searching for dates in February for the semi-finals of the League Cup.

Today, however, Aberdeen and Celtic must turn their attention back on their main aim of the season – winning the premier division championship. Since Dundee United, the holders, have not been able to maintain last season's form, they now seem to be the only contenders.

"We are in a marvellous position but we ... must concentrate solely on beating Motherwell at Fir Park," said the Aberdeen manager, Alex Ferguson. And the Celtic manager, David Hay, whose team are six points behind the leaders, said. "We must battle on and try to win every match, taking advantage of any slip by Aberdeen." As Celtic have scored eight goals in two league matches against St Johnstone this season, he feels that their scoring form against the Perth team at Parkhead.

Rangers should beat Hearts of Midlothian at Tynecastle and Dundee United also look likely winners in their match at Tannadice with struggling Hibernian. Improving Dundee may gain a draw at Paisley against St Mirren.

Truce at Maidstone

The two sides in the boardroom dispute at Maidstone United FC which culminated in the removal of the chairman, Jim Thompson, agreed truce terms in the High Court in London yesterday. Mr Thompson and his opposing directors, led by his successor, Cyril Nicholls, gave cross-undertakings until a further court hearing on March 2.

Mr Thompson has been chairman of Maidstone for 15 years and is chairman of the Alliance Premier League. His companies, Adverkit International and Harvest Publications, control the club. He claimed that, while he was in the United States on business earlier this month, his fellow directors purported to hold a board meeting and removed his as chairman. They also allotted now shares in the club which "watered down" his interest. Under the interim terms agreed yesterday during protracted out-of-court negotiations, Mr Thompson will not hold himself out as chairman or managing director of Maidstone United Football Club Ltd without the prior consent of the board of directors or the majority of members of the company. He also agreed not to transfer or deal in Maidstone United shares held by himself or his companies.

Mr Thompson also undertook to deliver to the company's registered office at the stadium any records or documents in his possession relating to the club's affairs, before and after it was formed into a limited company in 1982. The company undertook not to allot or issue any new shares, or register any share transfer arady lodged.

FENCING

Duel for the crown: Lai Vun Hong, of China (right) and Salomi Eyal, of Israel in a Leon Paul international match at the De Beaumont Centre London. (Photograph Ian Stewart).

TENNIS: LTA SATELLITE TOURNAMENT

Connors is taken to tie-breaker

Memphis (Reuter) – Jimmy Connors, the top seed, hit a forehand volley winner on his fourth match point in the tie-breaker to beat Tomas Smid 6-7, 7-6 in the United States national indoor championships.

In the tie-braker, Smid, seeded ninth, survived double match point at 6-4, as Connors missed successive backhand volleys. Connors had another match point at 8-7 but missed a forehand.

Connors escaped four set points in the tie-breaker. He saved the first at 7-6 with a forehand volley winner. Smid's second chance came at 9-8 but he missed a backhand passing shot. A third opportunity came at 10-9 but again he missed the backhand.

The final set point came at 11-10 and Connors saved that one with a forehand just inside the sidelines to scramble into the quarter-finals.

THIRD ROUND J Connors (US) bt I Smid (CZ) 4-6, 7-6 (13-11); J Arias (US) bt R Krishnan (Ind) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; H Leconte (Fr) bt Tim Gullikson (US) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; T Mayott (US) B Gottfried (US) 6-4, 6-4; W Fibak (Pol) bt P Fleming (US) 6-7 (3-7), 6-4; E Teltscher (US) bt H Gunthard (Switz) 6-3, 6-4; B Testerman (US) bt K Curren (SA) 6-4,4-6, 6-2; F Buehning (US) bt A Gomez (EC) 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

SECOND-ROUND MEN'S DOUBLES D Graham, L Warder bt M Dickson, S Stewart, 6-3, 7-6 (10-8). G Donnelly, L Pimek bt S Meister, B Teacher 6-3, 7-5.

● Yannick Noah will compete in the La Quinta Grand Prix tournament next week despite fears he may injure himself before France's Davis Cup encounter with India in two weeks' time.

● Tracy Austin, third seed in the Chicago women's tournament beated 6-1, 6-4 by Her fellow American, Barbara Potter.

Hutchins's advice helps Bates to reach final

By Lewine Mair

In the final of last week's LTA satellite event at Bramhall, Jeremy Bates lost to Peter Lundgren in three sets. However, the British players yesterday defeated the Swede 6-4, 6-3, to take his place in today's satellite final at Telford.

When he broke Lundgren's service to lead 5-4, Bates knew he was going to win. After tying up the first set, he played better and better in the next, coming up with some timely aces and a handful of unanswerable backhands, both down the line and across.

On Thursday night, Paul Hutchins, Britain's national team manager, had taken on one side and suggested that, once on court, he should forget about how he was playing and concentrate on winning.

For all that, Hutchins was not watching yesterday. Bates's attitude was again far removed from the somewhat dismal approach he had adopted earlier in the week. Indeed on Thursday night he had so far entered into the spirit of things that he was busy calculating how many computer points he would be ahead of Lungren if he were to win.

The man he meets in the final is Per Hjertquist, a Swede with a single handed backhand, who is ranked fifteenth in his country – Lundgren is sixteenth. A former runner-up in the European junior championships to Ivan Lendl, Hjertquist's main claim to fame is a US Open junior title.

In somewhat indifferent match, Hjertquist yesterday defeated Mike Brunnberg, an American who would appear never to have been smitten with Bates' problem of needing to make his presence felt on court. Brunnberg, powerfully built with a good-looking array of shots, led 3-0 in the first set and had a point to go to 4-1. He failed to make the most of the opportunity, however, and lost six games in a row.

The second set went to Brunnberg on a tie-break, but, when he lost his service to love at the beginning of the decider, the match was as good as over. He slammed a ball away to earn himself a warning and, thereafter, he often lacked concentration.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: J Bates (GB) bt P Lundgren (Swe), 6-4, 6-3; P Hjertquist (Swe) bt M Brunnberg (US), 6-3, 6-7, 6-1.

Hong Kong date

John McEnroe, of the United States, and Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, will play an exhibition match in Hong Kong on April 3.

Finney on loan

Frank McLintock, Brentford's new manager, made his first signing on his second day in charge at Griffin Park yesterday. Tom Finney, Cambridge United's Northern Ireland winger, has joined the third divisin club on a month's loan with a view to a transfer. Finney will be available for Tuesday's home game against Southend United. McLintock has left out Stan Bowles, a former colleague at Queen's Park Rangers, from the team to play at Burnley this afternoon.

● Brentford had an operating loss for the year ended May 31, 1983 of £96,233 which, coupled with an adverse balance on transfer fees of £36,375 makes a total loss for the year of £132,608, compared with a loss of £247,695 for the previous year. The forecast for the current year indicates a further improvement.

RUGBY UNION

England selectors give club games an additional lustre

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The lustre of several outstanding club matches today is heightened by the presence of England's selectors who meet over the weekend to discuss the team to play Ireland at Twickenham next Saturday. Gosforth, Bath, Bristol and Newport seem likely to attract their share of attention, with Gosforth and Sale having the additional importane of staging John Player Cup games.

Both cup games are postponed third-round ties: the winners of Gosforth's encounter with Wasps face the daunting task of travelling to meet Orrell, the Northern merit table leaders, while a happier fourth-round prospect faces Sale or Moseley, who have a home tie against Nottingham or Stourbridge (who meet under lights at Beeston on Tuesday).

Gosforth have their three current internationals, Bainbridge and White, of England, and Pollock, of Scotland, restored to their ranks against a Wasps team including Moss, formerly of Liverpool, in their back row. Moss made his debut for the London side last Sunday and adds to the merit of a team of whom, Stringer and Rendall will have more than a passing interest in Monday's England team announcement. But Wasps suffered a late disruption to their plans yesterday when Williams pulled out with a hamstring injury.

Moseley, the first English side to beat Wasps last week, field the same side at Brooklands, where they have already tasted defeat this season. That was back in October, when they were still much disrupted by injury; they are in confident mood now and the retention of Holman at centre means that two former Richmond players will be in opposition. Holman, a Moseley colt, played for Richmond while working in London and Dyson, a student at Manchester University, played on the wing in the Richmond team which won the Middlesex sevens last May. He scored three tries that day but may find life harder on the wing for Sale.

The Bath-Gloucester merit table game brings together two outstanding back rows, of whom the Bath pair, Simpson and Hall, played for England last Saturday; and Gloucester's Gadd and Teague are close to the national side. Down the road at Bristol there is a piquant meeting of stand-off halves, the up-and-coming Barnes, of Bristol, opposite the tried and tested – but still found wanting by the current Welsh selectors – Gareth Davies, of Cardiff.

The visit of Leicester to Newport brings a contest within a contest, that between the respective captains and hookers of Wales and England, Watkins and Wheeler. Leicester have yet to win a match this year and, down the years, have a depressing history of defeat at Rodney Parade: but they will be pleased to know that Dodge, their injured England centre, is resuming road running this weekend.

Auckland, the New Zealand provincial side, play the second match of their brief tour at West Hartlepool tomorrow and field in their pack the Whetton brothers, both of whom played for West two seasons ago. West returns the compliment by playing two New Zealanders themselves, Sigley, a centre whose home club, Grammar, is also home for the Whettons, and Waterson, a scrum half who has played for Auckland. West have four guests, including Eric Paxton, of Kelso, capped twice by Scotland in 1982, in the back row.

Worcester semi-final

The second UAU semi-final between Loughborough University and Cardiff University, will be held at the Worcester club ground next Wednesday. The winners will meet Nottingham University in the final at Twickenham on March 7.

Renwick will be out to make an impression

By Iain Mackenzie

After interruptions caused by inter-district championship games, the international trial, the internationals against Wales and England (and the weather) the Scottish National League programme will be on the move again today. All 98 clubs expect to be able to play. After this afternoon's fixtures have been completed, most sides will have only three scheduled fixtures left and therefore those with championship aspirations or relegation fears cannot afford to do anything foolish.

The annual struggle, or so it would seem, for the Scottish championship between Hawick and Gala will certainly continue. Hawick, title holders in the first five seasons of the Schweppes sponsored competition, are away to Jed-Forest, whose record both in the first division and in recent matches with Hawick does not suggest that they will provide more than their neighbours can cope with.

Despite the presence of Laidlaw in their side, and the absence with a stomach upset of Deanes from Hawick, the would-be champions are unlikely to slip up. At least two Scottish selectors will be at the game, and inspite of his advancing years, Renwick will be out to impress as he is anxious to resume his career for Scotland. One more cap would take him to an all time Scottish record of 52, one more than Irvine with whom he shares the lead at the moment.

The present champions, Gala, having lost to Hawick earlier in the season, trail by two points. They are also involved in a derby match at home to Melrose and with a full strength side expect a convincing if not exactly an easy win.

Selectors will be at this game too watching the progress of Tom Smith, the international lock who has recovered from Injuries. They will also be casting an eye over the form of Robertson at centre for Melrose.

IN BRIEF

Rio de Janeiro, (Reuter) – The former world motor racing champion, Emerson Fittipaldi, said yesterday that he had still not decided whether to return to the Formula One circuit this year. He told a news conference that the Spirit-Hart car he tested at the Jacarepagua track near here in January is undergoing further tests in Monza, Italy, and he did not know whether the engine could be improved enough to tempt him back. He said he would drive a five-litre March Chevrolet in the Sports prototype Grand Prix in Miami on February 26.

MARATHON: Tanzania's Juma Ikangaa, Mexico's Rodolf Gomez and Yutaka Taketomi, of Japan, are among the favourites for the fourth Tokyo international today. The defending champion, Toshihiko Seko, and last year's runner-up, Takeshi Soh, of Japan, are not competing in the annual event.

RUGBY UNION: The Ireland flank forward, John O'Driscoll is taking a weekend off rugby to catch up on his duties as a hospital doctor in Manchester. O'Driscoll, who will win his twenty-fifth cap against England at Twickenham next Saturday, therefore misses today's visit of London Irish to Liverpool.

HOCKEY

Cambridge plan final assault

By Sydney Friskin

If Cambridge City can pierce the cast iron defence of Ipswich today they will almost certainly win the premier division of the East League. In nine matches Ipswich may have scored only four goals but they have conceded only five.

The City lights have been ablaze for some time under the leadership of Stephen Graves and his able Lieutenant Peter White. Victory today over Ipswich will give them a total of 23 points from 13 matches with two to play. Mathematically, they could still be overhauled by Bedford, who would have to score a large number of goals in their four remaining matches to win on goal difference.

Third in the table are St Neots with 15 points from 12 matches. They are the surprise team in the league, their fortunes having been guided by Tony Ekins, the last man to have captained Great Britain in the Olympic Games. Among the others knocking at the door are Harleston Magpies, Old Loughtonians and Broxbourne.

Westcliff, last year's champions, with 12 points from nine matches could also finish somewhere near the top. For their away match today against Old Loughtonians they have chosen a strong side which includes French, Anderson, Bailey, Marks and Marriner. Westcliff's long run of successes in the league was broken in 1982 by Cambridge City.

Guildford, whose fortunes in the London League dwindled somewhat when they lost 2-0 to Oxford University in midweek, have a chance to restore their position when they play two matches this weekend. They are without Faulkner, who is away in Edinburgh with the England indoor side, but Ian Carley, the captain, hopes to beat Wimbledon tomorrow so they can stay within the first 10 in the percentage league.

In today's match in the premier division Guildford may have a much harder time against a Southgate team who are at full strength and looking forward to next week's cip matchs against Olton and West Warwickshire. Lyons, premier division leaders of the South Legue, sponsored by Truman, are unlikely to be troubled today by Eastcot.

ATHLETICS

Mrs Penny postpones Olympic ambitions

By David Powell

Glynis Penny, the English women's national marathon champion, will not be among the contenders for a place in Britain's team to go to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in August. Mrs Penny, who is 33, is pregnant but said yesterday she would return with the ambition of running a British best time and competing in the 1988 Olympics.

She believes there is not a woman in the country capable of improving Joyce Smith's British record of 2hr 29min 43sec, precisely seven minutes down on the world best set by American Joan Benoito. "I would like to think I can come back and beat Joyce's record. Thirty-three is no age at all for a marathon runner and I know I have not come anywhere my potential," Mrs Penny said.

Far from discouraged by the disruption to her 20-year athletics career, she indulges in evidence which suggests she will not reach her peak until near the age of 40. The two women ahead of her in the 1983 British rankings, Priscilla Welch and Mrs Smith, are both many years he senior. At 45, Mrs Smith finished ninth in the world championship in Helsinki last August and two months later Mrs Welch, at 38, was third in the New York Marathon.

Furthermore, she is encouraged to know some Eastern bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, believe women marathon runners perform more efficiently after childbirth.

Mrs Penny shares with Mrs Smith the distinction of being the only British women to have won national titles on the road, track and country but, unlike the British record holder, she returned disillisioned from Helsinki. Carrying an Achilles tendon injury into the race, she was forced to drop out when she tripped on a kerb and did not run for nine weeks afterwards as physiotherapists worked to heal her tendonitis.

"I was very disappointed. It took a lot out of me mentally and I was finding it hard to get motivated for Los Angeles," Mrs Penny said. The rest, she feels, will do her good, as it did last Olympic year. That was when she gave birth to a son, after winning two WAAA's 3,000 metres titles. "I thought that would be the end of my career but after I had Mark the running boom took off and I took off with it," she said.

GYMNASTICS

Title chance for Griffiths

By Peter Aykroyd

London has always lacked a fully-equipped gymnastics centre so today's London Open Championships are being staged at Harrow Leisure Centre, more for the convenience of the contestants from the north than for its facilities.

The event is arguably the most important in Britain for men after the national championships, attracting internationals and competitors from as far away as Scotland. This year, 150 gymnasts will compete in three sections, with most interest in the senior category.

Her, Britain's reserve internationals will have the stage to themselves as members of the national team are on exhibition duty in Newcastle, raising funds for Olympic training. The senior title should go to Tony Griffiths, of Harlow, but he will be tested by Simon Dransfield, of York, and Trevor Roberts, from Cheltenham. All three have shown considerable promise.

The junior trophy will be closely contested by three young internationals – Neil Thomas (Burslem) and Gary Hart and Richard Ellis, both from Harlow. Of the trio, Thomas has had the most experience in national competitions and is a strong favourite to become Thames Television's junior Gymnast of the Year.

Vietnamese winner

A 12-year-old Vietnamese boat girl, A Dinh Liu, of St Davids, Exeter, is the winner of the 75,000th badge in the Midland Bank sports acrobatics award scheme. She is coached by Janet Stoneman at the Central Church of England Middle School in Exeter.

WEEKEND'S FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

First division

Birmingham v Wolverhampton
Coventry v West Ham
Liverpool v Arsenal
Norwich v Aston Villa
Notts County v Watford
Queen's Park Rangers v Notts Forest
Southampton v Sunderland
Stoke v Ipswich
Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester
West Bromwich v Everton

Second division

Brighton v Swansea
Cambridge v Chelsea
Cardiff v Leeds
Derby v Blackburn
Fulham v Crystal Palace
Huddersfield v Oldham
Manchester City v Portsmouth
Middlesbrough v Barnsley
Newcastle v Grimsby
Sheffield Wednesday v Charlton
Shrewsbury v Carlisle

Third division

Bradford v Port Vale (2.30)
Bristol Rovers v Orient
Burnley v Brentford
Gillingham v Bournemouth
Lincoln v Hull
Millwall v Oxford
Preston v Plymouth
Rotherham v Bolton
Walsall v Southend
Wigan v Sheffield United
Wimbledon v Exeter

Fourth division

Bury v Doncaster (3.15)
Colchester v Chesterfield
Crewe v Blackpool
Hartlepool v Halifax
Hereford v Tranmere
Mansfield v Peterborough
Northampton v Rochdale
Reading v Chester
Swindon v Stockport County
Torquay v Bristol City (7.30)
Wrexham v Aldershot
York v Darlington

Scottish Cup third round

Inverness Caledonian v Stirling

Scottish premier division

Celtic v St Johnstone
Dundee United v Hibernian
Heart of Midlothian v Rangers
Motherwell v Aberdeen
St Mirren v Dundee

Scottish first division

Alloa v Falkirk
Clydebank v Ayr
Hamilton v Dumbarton
Kilmarnock v Brechin
Meadowbank v Morton
Partick Thistle v Clyde
Raith Rovers v Airdrieonians

Scottish second division

Dunfermline v Albion Rovers
East Stirlingshire v Forfar
Montrose v Queen of South
Queen's Park v Cowdenbeath
Stenhousemuir v Berwick
Stranraer v East Fife

FA VASE: Fifth round: Corinthian-Casuals v Stamford; Guiseley v Brandon United (2.15); Irthlingborough Diamonds v Buckingham Town; Leyton-Wingate v RS Southampton (2.00); Old Georgians v Baldock Town (2.15); Stansted v Bristol Manor Farm; Staveley Works v Rainworth MW (2.15); Wickham Bucknell CW (2.15).

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City v Boston United; Barnet v Trowbridge; Bath v Gateshead; Dagenham v Yeovil; Kettering v Runcorn; Kidderminster v Wealdstone; Northwich Victoria v Telford United; Scarborough v Nuneaton; Weymouth v Frickley; Worcester v Altrincham.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: First round, second leg: South Liverpool (1) v Oswestry (0). Second round: Barrow v Buxton; Macclesfield v Matlock; Horwich v Burton Albion; Witton Albion v Chorley; Workington v Marine; Worksop v Stafford Rangers.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Morecambe v Rhyl.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester United v Liverpool (2.0).

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal v Queen's Park Rangers; Ipswich v Swindon (2.15); Swansea v Tottenham Hotspur; Watford v Oxford United; West Ham v Birmingham (2.0).

IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena v Portadown; Bangor v Coleraine; Carrick Rangers v Ards; Distillery v Newry Town; Glenavon v Larne; Glentoran v Crusaders; Linfield v Cliftonville.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich Hamlet v Hendon; Harlow v Barking; Hayes v Bognor Regis; Hitchin v Harrow; Slough Town v Billericay; Sutton United v Staines; Tooting & Mitcham v Leytonstone & Ilford; Walthamstow Avenue v Carshalton Athletic; Wokingham v Bromley; Worthing v Croydon. First division: Aveley v Walton and Hersham; Cheshunt v Metropolitan Police; Clapton v Lewes; Epsom and Ewell v Windsor and Eton; Feltham v Hornchurch; Hampton v Hertford; Kingstonian v Chesham; Leatherhead v Tilbury; Maidenhead United v Boreham Wood; Wembley v Farnborough. Second division: Dorking v Barton Rovers; Eastbourne United v Egham; Hemel Hempstead v Tring; Hungerford v St Albans; Newbury v Molesey; Rainham v Letchworth; Southall v Epping; Uxbridge v Grays Athletic; Ware v Finchley.

ESSEX SENIOR TROPHY: Semi-final: Basildon v Tiptree.

OXFORD SENIOR CUP: Third round: Blackfriars v Oxford City (2.0); Chipping Norton v Morris Motors (2.0); Headington Amateurs v Kidlington (2.0).

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: (2.30): Premier division: Chigwellians v Cholmeleians; Foresters v Carthusians; Harrovians v Brentwoods. First division: Reptonians v Ardinians; Wellingburians v Etonians.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Berkhamstead Town v Camberley Town; Burnham v Haringey Borough (2.15); Chertsey Town v Kingsbury Town; Flackwell Heath v Banstead Athletic; Fleet Town v Harwich & Parkeston; Hoddesdon Town v Chalfont St Peter; Redhill v Marlow; Thatcham Town v Edgware; Whyteleafe v Ruislip Manor; Wolverton Town v Horley Town.

DEVON CHALLENGE CUP (2.15): First round: Plymouth v Dawlish, Torrington v Elmore.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: AP Leamington v Gosport; Chelmsford v Bedworth; Cheltenham v Fisher Athletic; Corby v Alvechurch; Dorchester v Hastings; Fareham Town v Folkestone; Gravesend v Sutton Coldfield; Stourbridge v King's Lynn; Welling United v Gloucester; Witney Town v Dartford. Midland division: Banbury v Bridgwater; Bridgnorth v Dudley; Bromsgrove Rovers v Aylesbury; Coventry Sporting v Shepshed Charterhouse; Forest Green v Redditch; Leicester United v VS Rugby; Moor Green v Wellingborough; Oldbury v Merthyr Tydfil; Rushden v Tamworth. Southern division: Addlestone v Cambridge City; Andover v Tonbridge; Ashford v Hounslow; Canterbury v Erith and Belvedere; Dover v Waterlooville; Hillingdon v Chatham; Poole v Crawley; Thanet v Dunstable; Woodford v Basingstoke.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.00): First division: Charlton v Fulham (Eltham); Gillingham v Cambridge United (Brompton); Ipswich v Arsenal (Portman Road); Orient v Southend (Brisbane Road); Queen's Park Rangers v Portsmouth (Loftus Road); Tottenham Hotspur v Norwich (Cheshunt); Watford v Millwall (Woodside Stadium); West Ham v Chelsea (Chadwell Heath). Second division: Brentford v Brighton (Northolt); Luton v West Ham (Dunstable); Wimbledon v Bristol Rovers (Roehampton).

NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Accrington Stanley v Formby; Ashton United v Penrith; Bootle v Netherfield; Darwen v Glossop; Lancaster City v Congleton Town; Leek Town v Caernarfon Town; Leyland Motors v Stalybridge Celtic; Winsford United v Radcliffe Borough.

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: Second round: Westminsters v Aldenhamians (2.15).

WESTERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Clevedon; Chippenham v Wellington; Exmouth v Minehead; Shepton Mallet v Devizes; Taunton v Mangotsfield.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Blyth Spartans v South Bank; Consett v Horden; Evenwood v Tow Law; Ferryhill v Bishop Auckland; Gretna v Billingham; Peterlee v Ashington; Shildon v Crook; Spennymoor v Whitley Bay.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: (2.30): Premier division: Chigwellians v Cholmeleians; Foresters v Carthusians; Harrovians v Brentwoods. First division: Reptonians v Ardinians; Wellingburians v Etonians.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Berkhamstead Town v Camberley Town; Burnham v Haringey Borough (2.15); Chertsey Town v Kingsbury Town; Fleckwell Heath v Banstead Athletic; Fleet Town v Harwich & Parkeston; Hoddesdon Town v Chalfont St Peter; Redhill v Marlow; Thatcham Town v Edgware; Whyteleafe v Ruislip Manor; Wolverton Town v Horley Town.

VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's first division: Airdrie v Dundee Kirkton; Falkirk v DV'81; Bellshill Cardinals v Volvo Trucks; Team TAK v Paisley; Whitburn v Murray International Metals. Women's first division: Larbert HSF v Whitburn; Kyle v Inverclyde; Sports Conscious DCPC v West Coast Women; Telford Tigers v Auchentoshan; Telford v Carluke.

HOCKEY

EUROPEAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP (at Meadowbank S.C., Edinburgh): Italy v Scotland (9.30); Netherlands v France (10.25); England v West Germany (11.20); Scotland v Netherlands (2.15); Italy v England (3.15); West Germany v France (4.15).

LONDON LEAGUE (2.45): Premier division: Southgate v Guildford. League: Beckenham v Hampstead; Blackheath v Reading; Bromley v Spencer; Cheam v Teddington; Dulwich v London University; Hawks v Slough; Maidenhead v Mid-Surrey; Purley v Hounslow; St Albans v Old Kingstonians; Tulse Hill v Wimbledon.

EAST LEAGUE (2.45): Premier division: Blueharts v Bishop's Stortford; Chelmsford v Broxbourne; Fords v Norfolk Wanderers; Harleston Magpies v St Neots; Ipswich v Cambridge City; Long Sutton v Bedford; Norwich Grasshoppers v Pelicans; Old Loughtonians v Westcliff.

SOUTH LEAGUE (2.30): Premier division: Amersham v Walton; Chichester v Bognor; Eastcote v Lyons; East Grinstead v Camberley; Fareham v Anchorians; Folkestone v Trojans; Indian Gymkhana v Canterbury; Metropolitan Police v Oxford Hawks. Hampshire/Surrey: Andover v Woking; Hamble Old Boys v Bournemouth and West Hants; Merton v Epsom; National Westminster Bank v Barnes; Old Edwardians v Portsmouth and Southsea; Old Tauntonians v Havant; Oxted v Wallington; Southampton University v US Portsmouth. Kent/Sussex: Brighton v Old Williamsonians; Gore Court v Marden Russets; Herne Bay v Tunbridge Wells; Lewes v Old Beccehamians; Lloyds Bank v Gravesend; Maidstone v South Saxons; Thames Polytechnic v Eastbourne; Worthing v Sevenoaks. Middlesex, Berks, Bucks and Oxon: Aylesbury v Tilehurst; City of Oxford v Bracknell; Ebeese v Sunbury; Hayes v British Airways; Hendon v Banbury; High Wycombe v Reading University; Marlow v Polytechnic; Richings Park v Staines.

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (at Eurosports Village Shotley Gate, near Ipswich): Pool A: Suffolk v Cheshire (10.30); Leicestershire v Suffolk (12.30); Cheshire v Leicestershire (2.30). Pool B: Somerset v Middlesex (10.30); Middlesex v Warwickshire (12.30); Somerset v Warwickshire (2.30).

RUGBY UNION

JOHN PLAYER CUP, THIRD ROUND

Gosforth v Wasps (2.30)
Sale v Mosely (2.45)

CLUB MATCHES

Bath v Gloucester
Birkenhead Park v Halifax
Bradford & Bingly v St Helens (2.30)
Broughton Park v Sheffield (2.45)
Coventry v London Scottish
Durham v Otley (2.15)
Fylde v Orrell (2.30)
Glamorgan Wanderers v Ebbw Vale
Hartlepool Rovers v Huddersfield (2.30)
Headingly v Bedford (2.30)
Liverpool v London Irish (2.45)
Llanelli v Harlequins
London Welsh v Bridgend (2.30)
Maesteg v Metropolitan Police
Middlesborough v Durham University (2.30)
Newbridge v Exeter
New Brighton v Northern
Newport v Leicester
Nottingham v Pontypridd
Northampton v Cross Keys
Nuneaton v Abertillery
Oxford University v Australian (2.30)
Plymouth Albion v Tredegar
Pontypool v Saracens
Penarth v South Glamorgan Institute
Richmond v Blackheath (2.30)
Rosslyn Park v Cambridge University (2.30)
Rugby v Manchester (2.30)
Swansea v Neath
Torquay v Aberavon
Vale of Lune v Morley (2.30)
Wakefield v Hull & East Riding
West Hartlepool v Harrogate (2.30)
Wilmslow v Birmingham

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION

Boroughmuir v Watsonians
Gala v Melrose
Heriot's FP v West of Scotland
Jed-Forest v Hawick
Kelso v Selkirk
Kilmarnock v Haddington
Stewarts Melville FP v Ayr

RUGBY LEAGUE

CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Kent Invicta v Castleford (2.15).

Tomorrow

FIRST DIVISION: Luton v Manchester United (2.35)

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: Second round: Salopians v Lancing OB (12.0).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: West Hartlepool v Auckland (NZ) (2.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Barrow v Workington Town (2.30); Blackpool Borough v Hull KR; Bradford Northern v Featherstone Rovers (3.30); Bramley v Wigan; Cardiff City v Hull (2.30); Doncaster v Batley; Halifax v Wakefield Trinity; Hunslet v Keighley (3.30); Oldham v Huyton; Rochdale v York; St Helens v Leigh; Salford v Leeds; Warrington v Huddersfield; Whitehaven v Fulham (3.30); Widnes v Dewsbury.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Dundee Rockets (7.15); Durham Wasps v Fife Flyers (6.30); Whitley Warriors v Murrayfield Racers (6.30). First division: Altrincham Aces v Crowtree Chiefs (5.30); Peterborough Pirates v Blackpool Seagulls (6.45); Southampton Vikings v Richmond Flyers (6.0).

OTHER GAME: Streatham Redskins v Solihull Barons (6.15).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's first division: Warrington Vikings v Birmingham Bullets (4.0); Brighton Bears v Manchester Giants (4.0). Men's second division: Bradford Mythbreakers v Camden (3.0); Gateshead v Watford Royals (4.0); Portsmouth Castaways v Newcastle (4.0). Women's first division: Crystal Palace Concordes v Nottingham (3.30); Solent Suns v Northampton (3.15).

VOLLEYBALL

SCOTTISH NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's cup quarter-finals: Volvo Trucks v Bellshill Cardinals; Bellshill Cardinals II v Airdrie; Dundee Kirkton v Falkirk II; Murray International Metals v Falkirk or Whitburn. Women's cup quarter-finals: Auchentoshan v Larbert HSFP II; Telford v Larbert HSFP; Kyle v Inverclyde; West Coast v Trinity.

WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES: THREE SIXES FOR BRITISH COUPLE

Downhill is blown off course by snowstorm

Sarajevo, (Reuter) – High winds and bad visibility yesterday forced the postponement of the Olympic men's downhill for the second time in 24 hours. The bad weather also forced the cancellation of practice for the women's downhill event which is scheduled for today and threatened to bring chaos to the skiing schedule.

The organizers of the men's race said winds swept Mount Bjelasnica at 120 mph and, with snow and mist blanketing the slope and causing poor visibility, any chance of competition was ruled out. The forecast is heavy snow over the weekend.

The men's race jury will decide today whether it will be possible to stage a practice, which Games regulations stipulate must precede competition following two blank days. The men's race has been rescheduled for tomorrow. The women's downhill could still be held this afternoon if it is possible to practice in the morning.

Heavy snowfalls also delayed the start of the men's and women's 500 metres speed skating events at Zetra.

Dusan Sencar, head of the men's race committee, said the downhill might be put back to February 19, the last day of the games. Postponements are a familiar problem on the World Cup circuit but they have occurred only twice previously in the Olympics – in Squaw Valley in 1960 and Grenoble in 1968, when the favourites were beaten each time.

Karl Schranz, Austria's former world champion, thinks the experienced men, such as the 1976 Olympic gold medal winner, Franz Klammer, and Swiss triple World Cup-winner, Peter Mueller, might now have the edge over lesser competitors such as Bill Johnson of the United States and Pirmin Zurbriggen, of Switzerland.

Zimyatov's fourth gold is a record

Sarajevo (Agencies) – Nikolai Zimyatov, of the Soviet became the first person in Olympic history to win four cross-country gold medals when he overcame a blizzard to take the 30km gold medal yesterday.

Zimyatov, a 28-year-old Army officer who won three gold medals at the last winter games in Lake Placid, headed a Soviet 1-2 triumph that offset a relatively disappointing performance by Soviet women in the 10km race.

He finished in 1hr 28min 56.3sec, ahead of Alexander Zavyalov, his team-mate and World Cup holder who took the silver in 1:29:23.3 and Gunde Svan of Sweden, bronze medallist, in 1:29:35.7.

● Christa Rothenburger of East Germany beat her compatriot, Karin Enke, to win the Olympic women's 500 metres speed skating gold medal.

In swirling snow which delayed the start for 5½ hours, Rothenburger, 24, clocked an Olympic record time of 41.02 seconds to overcome Enke, the pre-race favourite who won the 1,500 metres title.

Sarajevo (Reuter) – Wolfgang Hoppe, of East Germany, fended off the challenge of the new Soviet "hammerhead" bob yesterday to set a track record and take the lead on the first day of the Olympic two-man event. Hoppe and his brakeman, Dietmar Schauerhammer, charged down the 1,300 metre Trebivic track in 51.51sec.

Sergei Fokichev gave the Soviet Union their first speed skating gold medal of the Games by winning the men's 500 metres.

Torsten Goerlitzer, of East Germany, defied blizzard-like conditions to snatch the lead from Ernst Haspinger, of Italy, in the second day's racing in the men's single luge event on the Trebevic run. With less than four-tenths of a second separating the first seven men after the first two runs – the equivalent of about 10 metres on the 1,210 metre track – the race is still open

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundee Rockets v Cleveland Bombers (5.30); Nottingham Panthers v Fife Flyers (6.30). First division: Crowtree Chiefs v Solihull Barons (5.30); Grimsby Buffaloes v Glasgow Dynamos (7.15).

Torvill and Dean scale new heights with waltz

From John Hennessy, Sarajevo



Is there, one begins to wonder, any limit to the potential of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean as they move from one apparently unscaleable peak to another yet higher? They won the Olympic ice dance compulsories in the Zetra Stadium yesterday by a paralysing margin from Natalya Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin, of the Soviet Union, with Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert, of the United States, third.

They squeezed three full marks of 6.0 from the nine judges for their Westminster Waltz which forms yet another landmark in a glittering career.

The British couple began the season with two particular ambitions – an Olympic gold medal, of course, and a six in a compulsory dance. They broke one barrier with a maximum mark for their rumba during the British championship at Nottingham in November. But this new achievement was much more satisfying in front of an international audience. The second barrier has to be tackled with the Bolero free dance on Tuesday.

"Obviously we're thrilled", Miss Torvill said afterwards. "It is unbelievable. We knew we'd skated well but we really didn't imagine getting three sixes. We skated the Westminster Waltz well in the European in Budapest last month but we felt this was that little bit better."

As far as records here can show, this is the first time a six has been awarded for the compulsories in international competitions. One six came from the British judge, Courtney Jones, and the others from the Hungarian and Japanese judges.

Jones, then, is the lastest citadel to fall – he is not known as the "hanging judge" for nothing. Never before has he awarded a six for any competition. At first sight it may seem strange that he has done so in the rarified atmosphere of the compulsories, but one understands the logic. It is possible to see perfection in a set dance, whereas a six in the OSP or free could be open to humiliation by a succeeding couple.

The British couple have a lead of 0.6 pts over the Russians and 1.2 over the Americans, since points are now awarded on placings after each of the three elements. The corresponding margins in the OSP are 0.4 and 0.8 and in the free, 1.0 and 2.0.

It can thus be seen that the compulsories represent 30 per cent of the competition, the OSP 20 per cent, and the free 50 per cent. In the event of a tie, the free dance placings are decisive. There is still some way to go, therefore, before we applaud another ice skating gold medal in successive Olympics to set beside those of John Curry and Robin Cousins.

The British champions skated quite beautifully, with superb grace, rhythm and control. The judges were cautious to start with, as they tend to be in every competition, and Bestemianova and Bukin were able to stay in touch, according to one or two judges, in the paso doble. Two marks of 5.9 were a harbinger of what was to come.

There were seven marks of 5.9 for the second dance, the rumba, and the Russians case was dead as far as this part of the championship was concerned. In the third dance, Torvill and Dean were drawn to skate near the end of the parade and the stage was set for greater generosity in the marking if the judges were so-minded. One judge, from Italy, preferred the British rumba to the waltz, with 5.9 against 5.8, but that was an oddity. Otherwise there were five marks of 5.9 for the waltz.

Everything was right for the British couple. Elegantly clad in black, Dean in a velvet with a richness which reduced other blacks to charcoal. And they did not so much take the ice as make an entrance.

They had abandoned their unconventional movements in the paso doble and the waltz, with the results that Irina Absaliamova, the Russian judge, had no cause to quarrel with any possible non-observance of the rules. If she marked Torvill and Dean only 0.1 above Bestemianova and Bukin on all three dances, this was something of a concession for she had placed the British couple second in the waltz in Budapest.

Now their supremacy was complete, for all nine judges had them first on all three dances. The average British mark was 0.24 higher than the Russian – a formidable margin.

Karen Barber and Nicky Slater occupy fifth place, as in last year's world championships with Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams, of Solihull, 12th.

Grace and control: Torvill and Dean cut a fine figure in the compulsory dance.

Today's events

20km biathlon
Toboggan: men's singles, women's singles (third runs)
Skiing: women's downhill
Nordic combined: 70m jump
Bobsleigh: two-man (third and fourth runs)
Ice hockey: Italy v Poland, Austria v Czechoslovakia, Canada v Finland, United States v Norway, USSR v Yugoslavia, Sweden v West Germany

BBC1-TV: 12.30-1pm (women's downhill); 4.15-4.40pm; 10.50-11.15pm

Tomorrow's events

Skiing: men's downhill
Cross-country skiing: women's 5km
Speed skating: men's 5,000m
Nordic combined: 15km
70m ski jump
Toboggan: men's singles, women's singles (final runs)
Ice dance: original set pattern
Pairs: free skating (final events)

BBC1-TV: 3.25-4.55pm (ski jump, ice dance); 10.05-10.50pm (pairs)

Russians in Paris

Paris (AFP) – The Soviet Union are to take part in a four-team ice hockey tournament here, two days after the end of the winter Olympic Games. They will meet two of their main rivals at the Olympics, Canada and Czechoslovakia, in the tournament at the new Bercy sports hall from February 21 to 23. Cologne, the West German club, are the fourth team entered.

Yesterday's results

LUGE

MEN'S SINGLES: Second run: 1, T Guerlitzer (EG) 1min 32.382sec; 2, P Hildgartner (It) 1:32.453; 3, M Walter (EG) 1:32.501; 4, S Danilin (USSR) 1:32.717; 5, V Dudin (USSR) 1:32.719; and E Haspinger (It) 1:32.719; 7, Y Kharchenko (USSR) 1:32.779; 8, M Prock (Austria) 1:33.029; 9, G Sandbichler (Austria) 1:33.214; 10, N Huber (It) 1:33.517. British placings: 27, A Usborne 1:39.754; 28, C Prentice 1:40.107; 29, M Howard 1:40.505.

SPEED SKATING

MEN'S 500: 1, S Fokichev, (USSR) 38.19 sec; 2, Y Kitazawa, (JAP) 38.30; 3, G Boucher, (CAN) 38.39; 4, D Jansen, (US) 38.55; 5, N Thonetz, (US) 38.56; 6, V Kozlov, (USSR) 38.57; 7, F Roenning, (NOR) 38.58; 8, J Uwe Mey (E.G) 38.65; 9, A Danilin, (USSR) 38.66; 10, A Kuroiwa (JAP) 38.70.
WOMEN'S 500m: 1, C Rothenburger (EG) 41.02 sec; 2, K Enke (EG) 41.28; 3, N Shaev-Glebova (USSR) 41.50; 4, I Kuleshova (USSR) 41.70; 5, S Walter (EG) 42.16; 6, N Petruseva (USSR) 42.19; 7, M Holzner (WG) 42.40; 8, B Blair (US) 42.53; 9, E Rys-Ferens (POL) 42.71; 10, K Class (US) 42.97.

ICE HOCKEY

GROUP B: Czechoslovakia 4, United States 1

NORDIC SKIING:

MEN'S 30 KM CROSS-COUNTRY: 1, N Zimyatov (USSR) 1hr 28 min 56.3 sec; 2, A Zabyalov (USSR) 1:29:23.3; 3, G Swan (Swe) 1:29:35.7; 4, V Sakhnov (USSR) 1:30:30.4; 5, A Karvonen (Fin) 1:30:59.7; 6, L Eriksen (Nor) 1:31:24.8; 7, H Kirvesniemi (Fin) 1:31:48.3; 8, J Mieto (Fin) 1:31:48.3; 9, M Dezolt (It) 1:31:58.7; 10, U Bellman (EG) 1:31:59.3. British placings: 50, M Moore 1:40:22.2; 54, J Spotswood 1:42:23.3; 58, S Daglish 1:44:04.3.

FIGURE SKATING

ICE DANCE positions after set dances: 1, J Torvill/ C Dean (GB) 0.6; 2, N Bestemianova/A Bukin (USSR) 1.2; 3, J Blumberg/M Seibert (US) 1.8; 4, M Klimova/S Ponomarenko (USSR) 2.4; 5, K Barber/N Slater (GB) 3.0; 6, C Fox/R Dalley (US) 3.6; 7, T Wilson/R McCall (Can) 4.2; 12, W Sessions/S Williams (GB).

BOBSLEIGH

TWO-MAN (after two runs): 1, East Germany II (W Hoppe/D Schauerhammer) 1min 43.44sec; 2, East Germany I (B Lehmann/B Musiol) 1:43.53; 3, Soviet Union II (Z Ekmanis/V Aleksandrov) 1:43.66; 4, Switzerland I (H Hiltebrand/M Müller) 1:43.84; 5, Soviet Union I (Y Kipurs/I Shnepsts) 1:43.98; 6, Switzerland II (R Pickler/R Freiermuth) 1:44.42; 7, West Germany I 1:44.54; 8, Italy I 1:44.66; 9, West Germany II 1:45.36; 10, Italy II 1:45.42; 11, Britain II 1:45.53; 18, Britain I 1:46.51.

Medals' table

	G	S	B	Totl
Soviet Union	2	2	2	6
East Germany	2	2	0	4
Finland	1	0	0	1
Japan	0	1	0	1
Canada	0	0	1	1
Norway	0	0	1	1
Sweden	0	0	1	1

Curry's title

Don Curry won a gruelling 15-round bout with Marlon Starling to retain his World Boxing Association welterweight title on a unanimous points decision in Atlantic City

David Miller's Olympic diary

Princess Anne for IOC team?

The arrival here today, snowdrifts permitting, of Princess Anne, the new president of the British Olympic Association, raises speculation on the possibility that she may in due course be invited to become a member of the IOC.

Britain has two members, the elderly Lord Luke, who is a member for life, being elected before 1966, and the recently elected Mary Glen Haig, who has to retire in a few days at the age of 72. Princess Anne would be a valued candidate not merely because of her standing – the IOC ranks are studded with nobility – but because of her strong sporting connexions, including participation in 1976, her father's enthusiam for the Olympics and her evident intention to be an active BOA president.

Much will depend on the international impression made by Charles Palmer, should he be reelected as BOA chairman in the autumn. The IOC ignored his recommendation by Sir Denis Follows when considering a replacement for the Marquis of Exeter. Another figure favoured as a possible future candidate is Sebastian Coe, a member of the Athletes' Commission. The IOC need forthright personalities who can speak their mind: might Princess Anne be willing?

unappeased by the American justification that selling sponsored kilometres of the trans-US run is strictly charitable. Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles organizing committee has somewhat spiked Greek indignation by revealing that Los Angeles will pay the Hellenic Committee more than $100,000 for the right to light the flame in Olympia, as previous organizing committees have had to do.

There can be no doubt that the flame does still hold some of the fast-vanishing mystique of the Games. One of the most touching scenes in Sarajevo was when the flame burned, the night before the opening ceremony, from a special torch in central Scenderija Square. All eveing parents with young children were coming to witness the glowing symbol with a reverence markedly absent among too many competitors.

Civil hosts

The civility of the Yugoslavs knows no bounds. When I protested to the police that security was preventing taxis entering the central area of the press village, obliging my veteran colleague Frank Taylor, a survivor of the Munich football air crash, to walk several hundred metres with a [illegible] entitled to ask for an ambulance."

Oficials go to extreme lengths to fiond information all hours of the day and night. Many are unpaid. A language student interpreting on a press bus, doing a 12-hour day, said she had been promised payment "but I will have been happy to have done it for nothing".

As Peter Ueberroth observed: "The Yugoslavs have something we do not – the embracing of the Games by the people. It's their event. We're not near to having the same spirit. We're working at it."

One of the novel experiences is the Kula restaurant. Kula is appropriate – all the staff are inmates of an open prison. At 11.0 pm after serving tasty Serbian food with not a little style, they remove their bow ties and discreetly walk back to a bed in jail.

Uncivil visitors

The elimination of the US ice hockey team, after defeats by Canada and Czechoslovakia, has precipitated mass ennui in America. Television ratings have been so poor that ABC have cut their coverage

American spectators have not been among the most pleasant one has encountered. There is an aggression in their manner in that he "could not wait to leave this place" someone reminded him that the next games were in LA. "So what?"

Well, remarked the other journalist, they do say that there should be no danger from terrorists in LA because they will be too frightened to enter the hoodlums district of the Coliseum Stadium downtown.

Dance flaw

With the man's downhill twice postponed – it will now be on Sunday at the earliest because after two days' break the rules allow for another day's training today – attention has been on the skating. Marie-Therese Kreiselmeyer, resident coach at Oberstdorf, where Torvill and Dean train, believes they cannot lose; though she considers that the splits which Dean has introduced into the free dance since the European championships occasionally lacks fluidity as he rises from the ice.

Offers are already arriving here from commercial organizations anxious to book T and D the moment the Games are over, wanting a rung on the ladder to the first million.

There is rumour surrounding Scott Hamilton, the diminutive men's figure favourite and three times world champion. He is said not to have signed the International Skating Union's [illegible] obligatory

Australian row over contracts resolved

Melbourne (Reuter) – Kim Hughes, Australia's captain, has dismissed speculation that a contract row between players chosen for the forthcoming tour of West Indies and the Australian Cricket Board could have contributed to defeat in the first final of the World Series Cup.

The players sought the deletion of a clause in their contracts seeking a commitment that they would be available to play for Australia next year. Undoubtedly the ACB fear some would be tempted by offers from South Africa. Under a compromise, the players have agreed to be available until March 31, 1985 in return for a guaranteed minumum payment, even if they are injured or not selected.

● Graham Yallop has been ruled out owing to injury, of Australia's tour. His place as a middle order batsman will be taken by Dean Jones.

Yallop, aged 31, has not played for Australia since early last month when he injured the medial ligament in his right knee while fielding in a World Series Cup match against West Indies. He has been in prolific form this season and finished top of Australia's betting averages for the five Tests against Pakistan in which he scored 554 runs in six innings, including a test career best of 268.

● West Indies have delayed naming their team to play Australia in the second final of the World Series Cup today because of slight injuries to Lloyd, their captain, and Daniel, one of their fast bowlers.

Lloyd and Daniel were both involved in fielding accidents during a practice at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Lloyd jarred the index finger of his left hand and received treatment from the team physiotherapist. Daniel hurt his left hand.

West Indies will secure the cup if they win, having achieved a nine-wicket victory in Sydney on Wednesday

England recover their dignity if not quite their stripes

From Derek Hodgson, Auckland

Rain and bad light prevented play after tea at Eden Park today after England, confining new Zealand to 140 runs for the loss of three wickets in 60 overs, had recovered their dignity if not their stripes, after the humiliationof Christchurch. With just a little more luck, and a final two-hour session, Willis and his four bowlers might have won England a commanding advantage

For the first time in this series neither team could make any complaints about the pitch or, until late afternoon, the weather. The bounce was slow and even and the surface unmarked when the covers were replaced despite the impact of such human engines as Willis, Botham and Cowans.

A large crowd are expected today, New Zealand, 1-0 ahead, have to do no more than draw to win their first ever series against England and Howarth will want to spin out his first innings as long as possible

Howarth must be using a two-headed coin, according to Willis, who always calls "tails" and loses. He lost the toss for the third time on this tour. The English captain remains dogmatically logical: "It's always 50-50 whatever you call", as though there were no such thing as telekinesis or, indeed, gambling. But at least this time he won the approval of the English media with his team: Marks made a fifth bowler, playing his first game in the series, Gatting became twelfth man while New Zealand stood by the heroes of Lancaster Park.

The first two overs passed as gently as a saraband, Wright and Edgar ambling between wickets while the senior man flicked three runs with little more effort than is needed to strike a match. Perhaps it was this very amibility of the proceedings that ired Willis to roar in on the third over and deliver a ball to Edgar, only the second he had received, that whipped back on him sharply and intohis pads, plumb in front of the stumps.

Howath appeared so confident of this Auckland pitch that he scorned the white helmet usually worn when facing a steamed-up Willis and a new ball, wearing instead his black national cap: and a treat it was to see, too. Who was the last England player to wear a cap on the field? Boycott?

Botham, bowling from the Dominion Road end into a stiff crosswind, made the odd ball wobble and swing late although, when he did stray, Wright was quick to punish him, pulling and driving him twice for boundaries. Nevetheless Botham, in two spells before lunch, conceded only 15 runs in nine overs, a shrewdly conducted containing exercise.

Howarth had driven Willis twice and pulled Marks, a full toss, to the boundary and the lunch score, 70 for one off 30 overs and the ball starting to wear, was warning of a long hard day ahead for England. Willis, thinking of the humidity, had almost revelled in the luxury of numbers, all five bowlers being used in short spells.

It was Cowan's turn from the Sandringham Road end after lunch and, as the goods trains trundled by in the distance, sounding their mournful horns, he persuaded Howarth into a drive at a ball pitched a little wide and over-full. Unfortunately for New Zealand's captain, England had Randall at third slip and he took a fast low catch with his usual conjurer's aplomb.

Martin Crowe had not scored before he almost gave Cowans a return catch and had reached a nervous 10 when he mistimed a cut at Willis, Fowler making a flying attempt at a high catch at cover, touching the ball but not holding it.

Wright had meanwhile passed 50, in 151 minutes, but at 11 Martin Cowe's tense innings ended when Botham, diving to his left, snatched another low slip catch off Willis. The young centurion of Wellington had taken 19 minutes to score his first run and never seemed likely to add many more.

His brother, Jeff, survived a fierce appeal for a catch behind, off an inside edge, off Willis, before he had scored and in the same over, the forty ninth, played a ball down and escaped again when it spun back at his stumps and scraped the paint, the batsman being left three-legged and frozen with horror.

Four overs later Willis was as close to Wright's wicket, just missing a return catch. Wright was then 65 and New Zealand 128 for three but by now the skies were darkening and, although the players returned after tea, the rain descended before another ball could be bowled.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

J G Wright not out	71
B A Edgar lbw B Willis	0
*G P Howarth c Randall b Cowans	35
M D Crowe c Botham b Willis	16
J J Crowe not out	10
Extras (l-b7, n-b1)	8
Total (3 wkts)	140

J V Coney, R J Hadlee, †I D S Smith, B L Cairns, S L Boock and E J Chatfield to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–3, 2–74, 3–111.

BOWLING: Willis, 13-4-41-2; Botham, 18-7-27-0; Cowans, 11-5-20-1; Foster, 9-4-20-0; Marks, 9-2-24-0.

ENGLAND: G Fowler, C L Smith, D I Gower, A J Lamb, D W Randall, I T Botham, V J Marks, N A Foster, †R W Taylor, *R G D Willis, N G Cowans.

Umpires: F R Goodall and S J Woodward.

Somerset cash in

Somerset County Cricket Club have received £93,290 from advance payment of members' subscriptions up to and including January 31 after a discount was offered to members and accepted by 3,500.

● Bill Alley, the Test match umpire and former Somerset all-rounder, is to retire at the end of next season.

Jules Rimet reprint

A Brazillian subsidiary of the Eastman Kodak company has announced it will pay for the relacement of the Jules Rimet Trophy, football's original World Cup, which was stolen in Rio de Janeiro late last year. In 1970, Brazil became the permanent home of the trophy, when it became the first country to win it three times, in 1958, 1962 and 1970.

BOWLS

Corkill lets Bryant off hook in thrilling finish

By Gordon Allan

David Bryant, who has won the world indoor championship, sponsored by Embassy, three times, reached the semi-final round at Coatbridge yesterday. In a match lasting 26 ends and just over three hours, he beat David Corkill, of Belfast, 21-20. Today he plays the youngest competitor, Nigel Smith, aged 19, of the King George indoor club at Tolworth, Surrey, who beat the Commonwealth Games champion Willie Wood, of Scotland, 21-18.

The finish was the making of the Bryant-Corkill match, which until then had been of no great distinction. Corkill scored the maximum four shots on the first end and, with Bryant unable to drop onto his best length, led 10-3 and 12-6. Another of Bryant's famous recoveries carried him into a 16-13 lead, but Corkill drew level and then nudged in front 18-16.

From that point on, all the scoring was in jealously contested singles. Bryant chopped and changed the length of the jack but, short or long, Corkill did not allow these tactics to throw him off his game. He destroyed the head when Bryant held the three shots he needed for victory, but soon afterwards the Irishman missed a golden opportunity to win when at 19-19, he had an open draw for second wood and fell four feet short.

You rarely give a player like Bryant a second chance and survive. On the deciding end, Bryant rolled a full length jack, planted his first wood on the button and Corkill could do nothing about it. Corkill took up bowls when he broke an arm playing football. He was the British Isles champion three years ago and will remember yesterday's defeat as long as many of his successes.

Smith's father, also a Surrey player, was in tears at the end of his son's unforeseen victory over Wood. The youngster started playing at the age of nine and won the Andre club's outdoor championship when he was 12. Next month, he plays for England for the first time.

It was touch and go throughout with Wood leading 14-11 after 15 ends but then losing six shots at the next three ends. Occasionally, Smith's inexperience showed, but he had a useful habit of stealing the winning shot under pressure, and he did not let the odd strokes of adversity get him down.

QUARTER-FINALS: D Bryant (Eng) 21, D Corkhill (Irel) 20; N Smith (Eng) 21, W Wood (Scot) 18.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Leigh's appeal against £1,000 fine is rejected

By Keith Macklin

Casting a shadow over Leigh as they prepare for tomorrow's first round Challenge Cup game at St Helens is yesterday's decision of a committee to turn down Leigh's appeal against the £1,000 fine imposed after the Oldham-v-Leigh brawl. The fine stands, so does the management committee ruling that the match must be played again after being declared null and void. In addition, the Leigh deposit of £100 is forfeited.

In a much happier frame of mind financially on the eve of the Cup, sponsored for the last year by State Express, are Kent Invicta. Today they have their biggest occasion of their short rugby league life, television coverage nationwide, and, hopefully, their biggest-ever gate. They entertain Castleford at Maidstone, and although the odds are against an Invicta win, they will surely lift their game. Gary Hetherington, who injured his left eye in a match against York last month, is back.

Cardiff City should also do well at the turnstiles with the vist of Hull, who are just coming back to their awesome best. Again, the second division club face summary dismissal, but Ninian Park should also see its best attendance of the season.

Fulham travel to Whitehaven, and in addition to their natural desire for progress, there will be a firm resolve not to become the only team to be beaten by the hapless Cumbrian club so far this season.

There seem few prospects of surprises or giant-killing acts, though Blackpool Borough gave Leeds a tough game in the John Player Trophy, and may have a few shocks in store for Hull Kingston Rovers. Wally Lewis, the highly-priced Australian half-back, plays the last game of his short and expensive stay with Wakefield Trinity in the tie at Halifax, and will be all-out to steer Trinity to victory and prove that the big investment was justified.

SWIMMING

Youngster's absence may worry England

By Athole Still

There are five changes among the 20 members of the two Yorkshire Bank sponsored squads which compete in Barcelona and Bonn this weekend. However, only the withdrawal of Sarah Hardcastle from the German meeting may deprive England of victory.

The 14-year-old distance freestyler from Southend Synchronettes would have been one of the favourites for the 400 metres event, but her coach, Mike Higgs, prudently decided that training and schoolwork are more important than picking up medals around Europe.

"Sarah missed five days training on each of her successful trips to Strasbourg and Amersfoort recently," he explained,

It has been a particularly good week for Higgs, because his other protege, Jackie Willmott, a world championship silver medal winner in 1982, seems finally to have emerged from the depression brought on by combination of personal problems and the understandable blow to her ego of being superseded by her 14-year-old clubmate.

SQUASH

Commanding Army should be cautious

By Rex Bellamy

The Army beat the Royal Navy 5-0 without conceding a game, to win the Inter-Services Championship for the 10th consecutive year – a sequence without parallel – at Lee-on-Solent yesterday. This was the 50th tournament in a series currently sponsored by John Jaques, the sports equipment manufacurers.

The Royal Air Force won the under-25 tournament (in which the Navy beat the Army for the first time) and the Army took the over-40 championship. The RAF are so strong at the under-25 level that the Army's celebrities, growing wiser but older, may view the future with some apprehension.

They also seemed to enjoy each other's company, as was evident yesterday in a delightfully entertaining match – impressive, too, in the quality of the squash – between two internationals Robbie Robinson and Norman Ingledew. Robinson won 9–6, 9–2, 9–3 but Ingledew, still shaking off the rust after almost a year's lay-off from serious competition, played his full part.

RESULTS: In strings' order: (Army names first): R Robinson bt N Ingledew 9–6, 9–2, 9–3; C Wilson bt A Johnstone 9–0, 9–0, 9–1; N Stewart bt G Huggins 9–3, 9–0, 9–1; R Sharkey bt R Bawtree 9–1, 9–5, 9–3; C Adam bt P Seaton 9–0, 9–4, 9–1.

IN BRIEF

RACKETS: William Boone and Randall Crawley are top seeds in the Celestion amateur doubles championship which begins at Queen's Club today (William Stephens writes). This pair have held the title since 1980, with Boone, powerfully built and fit, the dominant partner. Crawley is the perfect foil for the aggressive Boone.

The second seeds are the brothers Mark and Paul Nicholls, last year's open doubles finalists. Mark won the H. K. Foster Public School Singles Cup in 1973 and 1974 and has continued to improve. Last month he beat John Prenn, the world champion, in the amateur singles semi-final.

SQUASH RACKETS: Hiddy Jahan and Neil Harvey, the Essex No 1, were fined £50 and warned for bringing the game into disrepute by the Squash Rackets Association yesterday. They were involved in a bad-tempered match in an invitation event at Bromley, Kent, last month which ended with Jahan deliberately hitting six balls into the tin to lose the contest.

BOXING: The number one contender Greg Page and number two Tim Witherspoon will meet for the vacant World Boxing Council heavyweight championship in Las Vegas on March 9.

YACHTING: The shroud used to conceal the shape of Australia II's controversial winged keel is at the centre of a row developing between Alan Bond's America's cup syndicate and a Sydney company. The Bond syndicate are angry that the shroud is being used to help raise $4.6m for a Sydney based challenger to defend the cup in 1987.

NETBALL: Essex provide four of England's squad for the international against Wales at Huddersfield on Saturday week. Gillian Hipsey captains the team.

ENGLAND SQUAD:S Keal (Middlesex), C Thomson and S Bont (Warwickshire), J Larby and W Bye (Hampshire), H Cadman (Cheshire), K Lambden (Hertfordshire), R Mayes (Gloucestershire), G Hipsey (capt), S Collins, D Mahoney and D East (Essex).

FOOTBALL: England are adopting a cautious approach to alternative South American football tour arrangements. The Football Association have received a telex from Brazil, confirming the cancelation of their seventieth anniversary tournament, scheduled for June. "The Brazilians say there is a possibility of friendlies being arranged against South American countries instead," an FA official said. "But it will depend on the dates and also whether we are given clearance by FIFA."

FOR THE RECORD

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Toronto Maple Leafs 8, Boston Bruins 3; Buffalo Sabres 8, New Jersey Devils 5; Philadelphia Flyers 4, Edmonton Oilers 3; Vancouver Canucks 7, Montreal Canadiens 6; Detroit Red Wings 9, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; New York Rangers 4, Minnesota North Stars.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Indiana Pacers 107, Seattle Supersonics 102; Phoenix Suns 118, Atlanta Hawks 105.

FENCING

LONDON: Leon Paul Team Challenge: Foil: 1, China, 3 wins; 2, Great Britain A, 2; 3, Great Britain B, 1; 4, Israel, 0.

CRESTA RUN

SENIORS CUP: Junction handicap race for over 50-year-old riders (bad weather closed the run after first course): 1, A J Cavendish (GB), h'cap 8.70, net 51.92; 2, K-H Dietz (WG), .50, 51.99; 3, K Lowry (US), 3.20, 52.32.

SNOOKER

BATLEY: Yamaha masters: group 21 (GB unless stated): M Wildman bt J Donnelly, 2-0; M Morra (Can) bt Donnelly, 2-0; Morra bt Wildman, 2-0 (Morra qualifies).

GOLF

HONOLULU: Hawaiin Open. First round (US unless stated): Leading scores: 65, C Peete, R Caldwell; 66: G L Morgan, M Sullivan; 67: I Aoki (Jap), F Couples, K Green; 68: P Stewart, S Watkins, B Britton; 69: Langer (WG), D Watson (SA), H Irwin, J Nelford, H Sutton. British scores: 74: N Faldo; 75: P Oosterhuis.
MELBOURNE: Victorian Open: Second round (Australian unless stated): 139: R Shearer, 68, 71; 140: T Gale, 70, 70; 141: G Norman, 70, 71;

BADMINTON

SITTARD, Netherlands: Netherlands 4, Scotland 3 (Dutch names first). Men's singles: L Coene lost to A White, 18-18, 6-15; P Pelupessy bt G Hamilton, 15-3, 15-5. Women's singles: E Coene bt P Hamilton, 11-4, 11-5. Mixed Doubles: J van Driel and Bas von Barnau Sijthoff bt C Hatley and B Gilliland, 15-12, 15-7. Men's doubles: F van Dongen and I Knstantel bt B Hamilton and B Sutart, 9-15, 15-13, 17-14; Pelupessy and von Barnau Sijthoff lost to White and Gilliland, 3-15, 6-15. Women's doubles: M Ridder and E Coene lost to P Hamilton and M Johnson, 17-18, 18-17.

FOOTBALL

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Fluminense 1, ABC 0; Vasco da Gama 1, Tuna Luso 1; Nacional 1, São Paulo 1; Atletico 3, Cruzeiro 2; Flamengo 3, Mato Grosso 2.

GOLF

JOHANNESBURG: South African Open: Third round: Leading Scores (SA unless stated): 204: T Johnstone (Zim), 67,65,72; 208: N Price, 69,69,70; B Buttner (US), 70,67,71; 209: F Allen, 69,70,70. British score: 211: P Way, 71,68,72.

SARASOTA, Florida: Sarasota Classic. First round. Leading scores (US unless stated): 68: A Miller, J Lock (Aus). 69: L Peterson; 70: C Johnson, S Spuzich, N Lopez, J Carner, B Thomas, C Morse, J Joyce. British scores: 77: C Panton. 78: J L Smith.

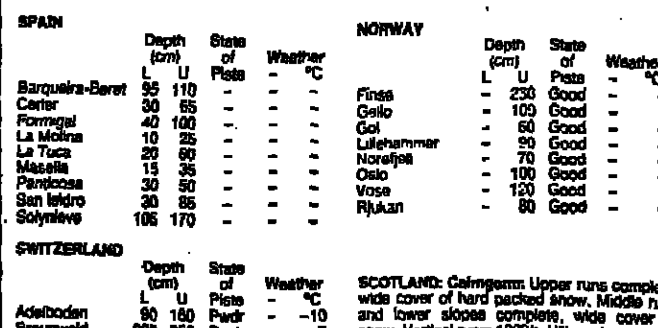
MOTOR RALLYING

KARLSTAD, Sweden: Swedish Rally: 14.3km Mangstorp Special Section: 1, P Eklund (Swe) and D Whitlock (GB), Audi Quattro, 7min 59 secs; 2, S Blomqvist and B Cederberg (Swe) Audi Quattro, 1 sec behind; 3, L Lampi and P Kuukkala (Fin), Audi Quattro, 17sec. 12km Bergsaeng Special Section: 1, S Blomqvist (Swe), Audi Quattro, 2 sec behind; 3, M Mouton

SKIING CONDITIONS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to Resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	200	240	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–2
Limited runs – avalanche danger							
Davos	150	250	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	–6
Most runs closed							
Flaine	240	400	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–7
Cablecar and 4 small lifts open							
Gstaad	80	155	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	1
Excellent powder skiing							
Kitzbühel	30	215	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	0
Few lifts open Friday							
St Moritz	80	100	Good	Powder	Good	Sun	–7
Lifts closed by high winds							
Val D'Isère	160	300	Good	Varied	Good	Sun	–4
Good skiing but limited runs							
Verbier	110	280	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–4
Powder on hard base							
Villars	100	160	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	–9
High winds on upper slopes							
Wengen	70	160	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–3
Excellent skiing conditions							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist boards:



SPAIN

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Barqueira-Beret	95	110	–	–	–
Cerler	30	65	–	–	–
Formigal	40	100	–	–	–
La Molina	10	25	–	–	–
La Tuca	20	60	–	–	–
Masella	15	35	–	–	–
Panticosa	30	50	–	–	–
San Isidro	30	85	–	–	–
Solynieve	105	170	–	–	–

NORWAY

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Finse	–	230	Good	–	–5
Geilo	–	100	Good	–	0
Gol	–	60	Good	–	–6
Lillehammer	–	90	Good	–	–6
Norefjell	–	70	Good	–	–6
Oslo	–	100	Good	–	–9
Vose	–	120	Good	–	0
Rjukan	–	80	Good	–	–4

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	90	160	Pwdr	–	–10
Braunwald	200	250	Pwdr	–	–7
Champéry	30	170	Pwdr	–	–3
Chateau d'Oex	100	190	Pwdr	–	–3
Engleberg	90	170	Pwdr	–	–5
Kandersteg	70	200	Pwdr	–	–4
Laax-Flims	200	300	Pwdr	–	–4
Lenk	80	180	Pwdr	–	–6
Lenzerheide	190	250	Pwdr	–	–3
Les Diablerets	100	150	Pwdr	–	–8
Leysin	100	250	Pwdr	–	–2
Pontresina	50	150	Pwdr	–	–17
St Gergue	110	140	Pwdr	–	–4
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	–5

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper runs complete, wide cover of hard packed snow. Middle runs and lower slopes complete, wide cover of snow. Vertical runs: 1800ft. Hill roads and main roads clear. Snow level 1000ft. Glenshee: Upper runs complete, wet snow. Lower – ample nursery areas of wet snow. Vertical runs 1000ft. Hillroads and main roads clear. Snow level 1200ft. Glencoe: Upper runs and lower slopes – runs complete, wide cover of wet snow. Vertical runs 2400ft. Hill roads and main roads clear. Snow level 1200ft. Lecht: Upper runs and middle runs – runs complete, wide cover of wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes – ample nursery areas of wet snow on firm base. Vertical runs 730ft. Hill roads and

RACING: A FIELD OF 26 LINE UP FOR THE SCHWEPPES GOLD TROPHY AT NEWBURY

Leniently-treated Buckbe has the best credentials

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

With 26 runners standing their ground, this year's Schweppes Gold Trophy looks every bit as open as it has always done since its inception at Liverpool in 1963. With Pinch Hitter dropping out yesterday, the weights have gone up automatically by 2lb, leaving Amarach at the top. Only three horses, Persian War, Le Vermontois and Within The Law, have carried 11st or more and won this race which puts the task facing the top weights into perspective.

By selecting Buckbe to continue her winning run, I am banking again on one of those nearer the foot of the handicap, taking advantage of their light weight. Buckbe was to have been ridden by Colin Brown but he is sidelined, suffering from concussion after a heavy fall at Wincanton on Thursday. However, he was still well enough, although still feeling a bit muzzy, to go racing yesterday as a spectator. Discussing Buckbe's chance he admitted to being disconsolate because he would not have swapped the ride on her for anybody. "I really do think that she will go very close. She has the ideal make up for the race," he said. Her trainer, David Elsworth, can count himself lucky that he has been able to call upon a jockey as experienced as Paul Barton to deputise at the eleventh hour.

Buckbe is a stayer with a turn of foot and capable of acting on the prevailing ground. Her credentials fit the bill for the Schweppes, which is invariably run at a tremendous gallop from the start. With only 10st 3lb to carry she should give her backers the good run that her former jockey predicts, provided she reproduces her recent form at Cheltenham where she outpaced Gaye Chance and Mastor O Mavros up the final hill.

Eastern line, who finished fifth that day, is held by Buckbe on that form, but now that the ground is fairly good, I am more afraid than ever of Secret Ballot, who beat Admiral's Cup, Janus, Sula Bula and Very Promising in the New Year's Day Hurdle at Windsor.

As that result indicates, Secret Ballot is a good horse on his day. But he does have a history of heart trouble and I cannot help wondering whether he will be suited by a hard race of this nature at the age of ten. Against that, he has had plenty of time to recover from Windsor so he ought to be fresh.

Sula Bula and Very Promising have both run better in the meantime, Sula Bula winning at Sandown a week ago and Very Promising who lived up to his name with a good run behind Janus at Kempton. Wearing blinkers for the first time, Sula Bula had everything his own way at Sandown where he led all the way. I doubt him being able to do that now.

John Francome makes no secret of the fact that he expects Admirals Cup to give him a good ride. The horse has never been beaten at Newbury and he was particularly impressive there in October. Now he will be meeting Secret Ballot on 4lb better terms than when they clashed at Windsor.

Cool Decision and Great Light are others who have excelled already at Newbury, each winning the L'Oreal Hurdle once. With 11st 4lb, Cool Decision appears to have too much weight now. Not so Great Light with only 10st 9lb.

Fredcoteri, the sole hope fo Ireland, has won the last two runnings of the Sweeps Hurdle at Leopardstown. A dour stayer who will be well suited by the inevitable breakneck gallop, Fredcoteri seems certain to make his presence felt. But the ground does not look soft enough for either him or Avondale Princess, who showed signs of returning to form at Sandown last Saturday.

Amarach's limitations were ruthlessly exposed by Gaye Brief at Hereford recently and I question his ability to win with his big weight.

In contrast to the Schweppes, the Compton Steeplechase will have only two runners so long as Ashley House and Cavity Hunter both run in the Grand National trial at Catterick which is their trainer Michael Dickinson's preferred choice. However, as those two will be the Gold Cup favourite, Wayward Lad and the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup winner, Brown Chamberlin, visitors to the Berkshire course will have a treat in store.

If Brown Chamberlin is to ever beat Wayward Lad, this is surely the moment. With seven course victories to his name, he has still never been beaten at Newbury, his happy hunting ground. Futhermore, he will be meeting Wayward Lad on 7lb better terms than when he was beaten five lengths by him at Kempton on Boxing Day.

Brown Chamberlin is said to be so well that he is almost jumping out of his skin whereas Wayward Lad may well not be at his peak following that spell of bad weather in Yorkshire which certainly interrupted Dickinson's training schedule. However, the champion trainer should win the Game Spirit Steeplechase with that exciting front runner The Mighty Mac and he should also be on target at Ayr with Bregawn (2.50) and Badsworth Boy (3.20).

Ashley House will hopefully be seen at his best at Catterick, where John Bunyan is expected to take a deal of beating in the Northern Hunters Steeplechase.

● Tulsa Flyer, (John Mathias) looks the pick of three British runners in the £3,300 Prix de Bastia over 12 furlongs at Cagnes-sur-Mer tomorrow. He is joined in the 14-strong field by Jackdaw (Willie Ryan) and Concert Pitch (John Reid).



Childown leading Easter Lee on his way to victory in the Stroud Green Hurdle (Photograph by Ian Stewart)

Francome is reported for fourth offence

By Michael Seely

John Francome continued in the news at Newbury yesterday. The reigning champion jockey drew level with John O'Neill at the head of this season's table by landing a 129-1 double on Areus and Clutterbuck. However, Francome was also reported to the Disciplinary Committee of the Jockey Club for failing to ride Easter Lee out for second place behind Childown in the Stroud Green Hurdle.

The Newbury stewards had little alternative but to take this action as this was the fourth time that the jockey has been found guilty of the same offence this season. He was fined £75 for taking matters easy on Observe against The Mighty Mac on this course in October, £100 for dripping his hands on Lucky Mistake at Newton Abbot, £150 for again relaxing his attention close home on Areus at Wincanton in November. Francome was, of course, also relieved of £75 by the Chepstow stewards for being too hard on Observe when beating Silver Buck in the Rehearsal Chase on October 31.

At the Derby awards press lunch before Christmas Francome dubbed the stewards as "the cabbage patch kids." The jockey may now be regretting his jest. To be fair, Francome was only trying to give Easter Lee an easy time of it in the last 20 yards after driving the four-year-old hard from the second-last hurdle to try and master Childown. If there had been no previous offences to be considered, a caution would have seemed a fairer punishment.

Childown is now 16-1 favourite for the Triumph Hurdle after his gallant victory. The four-year-old has now won his last three races over hurdles. Once again quick jumping and courage were the hallmarks of Childown's win. "He won't run again before Cheltenham", said Nicky Henderson, "We had plenty of use made of the horse today because of the faster ground, and he should be in his element flogging his way up that steep final climb in heavy going."

The shock result of the afternoon came in the Harwell Chase when Tim Houlbrooke, and Sointulla Boy, proved too strong for Mark Perrett and King Ba Ba in a battle from the last fence. Not surprisingly, Sointulla Boy started at 50-1 as this was the nine-year-old's first success since winning at Ludlow in March 1981.

The stewards asked Mrs Huelwan Houlbrooke to account for Sointulla Boy's improved form, particularly as the winner was carrying 19lb overweight. "They accepted my explanation," said the trainer, "which was that Sointulla Boy has had a long history of lung trouble." No one was more astonished by this triumph than the winning jockey. "My heart sunk on the way to the post as Sointulla Boy was scratching about and taking no interest at all. But in the race he was always enjoying himself and never came off the bridle until after jumping the last fence."

Mr Houlbrooke, a 27-year-old Gloucestershire dairy farmer, certainly deserves full marks for determination. He had to shed a stone in weight to ride at 11st 5lb. "I was up helping a cow to calve until 1 o'clock this morning and was out on the farm again at seven." The jockey hopes to celebrate his 28th birthday by riding Sointulla Boy in the Kim Muir Challenge Cup at Cheltenham

Fred Winter was delighted by his double, but fuming at Francome's late appearance into the paddock before mounting Clutterbuck. "He wasn't allowed out of the inquiry until the other horses had gone to the start. It's not good enough. They left the owners and me standing about like a bunch of bananas."

On the Schweppes Gold front last-minute gambles developed on Amarach, Secret Ballot and Admiral's Cup. Bakers of Janus had a scare when Richard Rowe had a fall on Trev's Way in the first race, but the jockey reported that he should be fit again by this afternoon.

Winter certainly gave encouragement to the chances of Admiral's Cup. "I rode him myself this morning and the horse is very well. He's unbeaten in three appearances at Newbury and won't mind the ground. You always need luck in the Schweppes, but given a trouble free run Admiral's Cup is bound to finish in the first four." Having advised support for Very Promising and Janus when they stood at 12-1 and 20-1, respectively, I now suggest backing Admiral's Cup as well. This tough battler looks the ideal type for the most competitive handicap of the season and must be the best each-way bet in an open race.

Fairyhouse pointer to Cheltenham challenge

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

Irish trianers should be in a better position to formulate plans for the Cheltenham National Hunt festival next month, after today's meeting at Fairyhouse. Three top novices, Ballinacurra Lad, Harveystown and Daring Run are among those declared for the T. W. Dreaper Memorial Chase, and two potential Gold Cup candidates, Royal Bond and Drumlargan, appear in the Amberwave Handicap Chase.

John Crowley. The Cork trainer, is undecided whether Ballinacurra Lad should contest the Gold Cup or the Sun alliance Chase, at Cheltenham. The fact that the gold Cup is even being considered in this the horse's first season over fences, is significant and suggests that he should win handsomely this afternoon.

That view is suported by the handicapper. In the current weights Ballinacurra Lad is only 4lb below Drumlargan. who is handicapped to give 11lb To Harvey stown in next week's Leopardstown Chase.

Harveystown, the winner of a good handicap at Leopardstown in December, now meets Ballinacurra Lad at level weights and will be ridden by the leading amateur, Mr Ted Walsh.

Walsh is replaced on that former good, if erratic hurdler, Daring Run, By Tommy Carmody.

In receipt of 6lb Daring Run looks the danger to Ballinacurra Lad. The latter's best performance this season, apart from winning the Embassy Chase final, was to beat Royal Bond by a head at level weights over two and a half miles at Punchestown in November.

Royal Bond badly needed that run and has subsequently failured behind Harveystown at Leopardstown. Drumlargan recently was in the wars and was sent home for a rest after Christmas. Edward O'Grady, his trainer, whose gallops have been waterlogged, reports that Drumlargan needs the race. He will probably turn out again for the National Trial Chase at Punchestown in two weeks time

TODAY'S POINT-TO-POINTS

Cambridgeshire Harriers at Cottenham (11.30); Oxford University Hunt Club at Kingston Blount 12.30).

MONDAY'S ADVANCE GOING: Nottingham: chase, good, hurdles, good to soft. Plumpton: soft.

Newbury BBC

[Televised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.40, 3.15]

GOING: Chase, good: hurdles, good to soft

Tote: Double 2.40, 3.45. Treble 2.0, 3.15, 4.15

1.30 MINORS' HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: novices: £1,942: 2m 100yd) (12 runners)

101 310 BE ON TIME (L Salner) F Winter 11-9 .... J Francome
102 210 DODGY FUTURE (D Lowe) S Mellor 11-9 .... M Perrett
103 2310 GO SLEEP (S Mullen) M Salaman 11-9 .... A Griffiths 4
105 23 AFZAL (K Fischer) R Hollinshead 11-4 .... J J O'Neill
110 003 IL PONTEVECCHIO (Mrs J Murray Smith) D Murray Smith 11-4 .... G Newman
111 KAMIR (Mrs M Jarvis) A Jarvis 11-4 .... S Smith Eccles
114 00 NESTOR (BF) (P Hamlyn) D Nicholson 11-4 .... P Scudamore
115 000 OULA OWL (Mrs C Clatworthy) J Gifford 11-4 .... R Rowe
116 PAULATIM (G Johnson) N Henderson 11-4 .... H Davies
118 30 RAGGED ROBIN (J Burridge) D Elsworth 11-4 .... J H Davies 4
119 00 SOLAR LIGHT (M Fordham) Mrs N Smith 11-4 .... R Earnshaw
121 WILTSHIRE YEOMAN (J Sawyer) P Hayward 11-4 .... S Jobar

15-8 Dodgy Future, 11-4 Il Pontevecchio, 6 Oula Owl, 8 Be On Time, 12 Nestor, 14 Solar Light, 16 Afzal, 20 others.

FORM: Afzal (10-5) 3rd to The Reject (gave 17lb) 5 ran. Ascot 2m nov hdle Jan 13 good. Dodgy Future (11-2) 8th beaten 35l to Desert Orchid (gave 9lb) 8 ran. Sandown 2m hdle Jan 7 good. Il Pontevecchio (11-0) 3rd beaten 2½l to Santella King (gave 7lb) 10 ran. Cheltenham 2m hdle Jan 2 good. Solar Light (10-5) 6th beaten 3l to Townley Stone (gave 17lb), 5 ran. Ascot 2m nov hdle Jan 14 good.
SELECTION: Dodgy Future.

2.0 GAME SPIRIT CHASE (Limited Handicap: Grade II: £9,356: 2m 160yd) (5)

202 111113 THE MIGHTY MAC (Mrs J Lane) M W Dickinson 9-12-0 .... R Earnshaw
203 132-132 LITTLE BAY (Mrs S catherwood) G Richards 9-11-1 .... J J O'Neill
205 140411 RAGAFAN (CD) (C Wood) R Smyth 7-10-7 .... R Hughes
206 402300 CHINRULLAH (Mrs R Eastwood) D Nicholson 12-10-7 .... Mr C O'Toole 4
207 000022 RUN TO ME (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 8-10-7 .... B Powell 7

1-2 The Mighty Mac, 3 Little Bay, 6 Ragafan, 14 Chinrullah, 33 Run To Me.

FORM: Chinrullah (9-13) 5th beaten 118l to Oyster Pond (gave 4lb) 8 ran. Chepstow 2m h'cap chase Jan 24 soft. Ragafan (11-10) won 25l from Tudor Road (rec 13lb) 3 ran. Kempton 2m h'cap chase Jan 20 good to firm. Run to Me (10-10) 2nd beaten 4l to Dishcloth (rec 7lb) 6 ran. Newton Abbot 2m 150 yd h'cap chase Feb 3 heavy. The Mighty Mac (11-10) 3rd beaten 10l to Wayward Lad (level) 5 ran. Kempton 3m chase Dec 26 good. Little Bay (11-2) 2nd beaten 4l to Badsworth Boy (gave 12lb) 5 ran. Wetherby 2m h'cap chase Dec 26 soft.
SELECTION: The Mighty Mac

2.40 SCHWEPPES GOLD TROPHY HURDLE (handicap: £21,853: 2m 110yd) (27)

302 3-11212 AMARACH (Mrs E Duggan) R Fisher 6-11-7 .... J Duggan 7
303 04-2041 SULA BULA (B) (G Pratt) M H Easterby 6-11-5 .... Mr T Easterby
304 0-22213 COOL DECISION (CD) (B) (C Platts) Miss S Hall 7-11-3 .... R Earnshaw
305 111-302 VERY PROMISING (R Mann) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-3 .... S Morshead
306 114p-1 SECRET BALLOT (H Joel) A Turnell 10-11-0 .... Steve Knight
307 110-001 FREDCOTERI (T Murphy) A Moore (IRE) 8-11-0 .... Mr T Taaffe
308 120-103 RA NOVA (CD) (D Travers-Clark) Mrs N Kennedy 5-11-0 .... P Farrell 7
309 110-112 ADMIRAL'S CUP (CD) (R.E.A. Bott'Wignore) F Winter 6-10-13 .... J Francome
311 0p-1200 CARDINAL FLOWER (Miss V Yager) A Scott 7-10-10 .... H Davies
313 1/028-4 PATH OF PEACE (Miss L Gold) C Thornton 8-10-10 .... J J O'Neill
314 3-p0430 GREAT LIGHT (CD) (B) (B Atkinson) J Jenkins 8-10-9 .... S Smith Eccles
315 140213 STANS PRIDE (Mrs M Morgan) G Price 7-10-8 .... R Crank
316 320-431 JANUS (K Little) Mrs N Smith 6-10-6 .... R Rowe
317 10-1111 BUCKBE (R Tory) D Elsworth 5-10-3 .... P Barton
318 10-20p0 THE FOODBROKER (Food Brokers) P Haynes 8-10-1 .... J Lovejoy 4
319 02-003 LULAV (CD) (P Hamilford) D Nicholson 6-10-1 .... N Madden
320 11-0042 AVONDALE PRINCESS (Mrs B Taylor) M McCourt 6-10-1 .... G McCourt
321 022104 STAND EASY (W O'Dwyer) I Wardle 7-10-0 .... N Doughty
323 p4-1221 HILL'S GUARD (BF) (G Shiel) A Scott 5-10-0 .... A Stringer
324 12-0310 WHOLE SHEBANG (G Schjelderup) A Turnell 5-10-0 .... E Waite
325 0143-10 PATRICK'S FAIR (W Sister) D H Jones 8-10-0 .... C Seward
326 111/00 EASTERN LINE (J Maunders P.L.C.) D Nicholson 6-10-0 .... P Scudamore
328 311-000 ISHKOMANN (Mrs J Warren) J Spearing 5-10-0 .... W Hayes 7
329 131011 JADE AND DIAMOND (R Lavelle) G Balding 6-10-0 .... R Chapman 4
331 10-0p00 RETURN TO POWER (D Wickins) S Pattemore 5-10-0 .... R Linley
332 4433-00 RIDGEFIELD (R Doughty) D Thom 6-10-0 .... R Rowell
333 1034-00 DEVISDALE (Mrs J Robshaw) J D Cann 5-10-0 .... DOUBTFUL

5 Very Promising, 6 Amarach, 10 Fredcoteri, Admiral's Cup, 14 Buckbe, Janus, 16 Sula Bula, Great Light, Secret Ballot, 20 Ra Nova, Cardinal's Flower, Path Of Peace, Cool Decision, 25 Eastern Line, Stand Easy, 33 others.

FORM: Amarach (10-13) 2nd beaten 3l to Gaye Brief (gave 7lb) with Avondale Princess (gave 2lb) 4th beaten 40l 5 ran. Hereford 2m hdle Feb 1 heavy. Buckbe (11-5) won 1½l from Gaye Chance (gave 9lb) with Eastern Line (level) 5th beaten 17l and Stand Easy (gave 9lb) 7th beaten over 22l 10 ran. Cheltenham 2m 4f hdle Jan 28 good to soft. Fredcoteri (10-4) won nk from Miller Hill (gave 15lb) with The Foodbroker (rec 4lb) 6th beaten 9l 18 ran. Leopardstown 2m h'cap hdle Jan 14 good to soft. Jade And Diamond (10-8) won 2½l from Royal Sunset (rec 8lb) 8 ran. Lingfield 2m h'cap hdle Feb 2 heavy. Janus (11-1) won ¾l from Very Promising (gave 12lb) with Cool Decision (gave 12lb) 3rd beaten 10½l and Whole Shebang (rec 10lb) 6th beaten 15l with Great Light (gave 3lb) 8th beaten over 15l 10 ran. Kempton 2m h'cap hdle Jan 21 good to firm. Path Of Peace (11-0) 4th beaten 19l to Robin Wonder (gave 12lb) 8 ran. Cheltenham 2m 4f hdle Jan 3 good to soft. Ra Nova (11-0) 3rd beaten 3l to Dawn Run (rec 2lb) with Janus (gave 3lb) 4th beaten 18l 9 ran. Kempton 2m hdle Dec 26 good. Secret Ballot (11-4) won 3l from Admirals Cup (gave 3lb) with Janus (level) 3rd beaten 4½l and Sula Bula (gave 6lb) 4th beaten 5l 6 ran. Windsor 2m hdle Jan 2 good. Sula Bula (11-5) won sh hd from Cut A Dash (rec 5lb) with Stans Pride (rec 10lb) 3rd beaten 7l with Cardinal Flower (rec 5lb) 7th beaten over 27l 8 ran. Sandown 2m hdle Feb 4 good to soft.
SELECTION: Secret Ballot.

3.15 COMPTON CHASE (£4,848: 3m) (4)

402 213-111 WAYWARD LAD (D) (Mrs S Thewlis) M W Dickinson 9-11-12 .... R Earnshaw
403 310-220 ASHLEY HOUSE (D) (J McLoughlin) M W Dickinson 10-11-5 .... –
404 3p-1112 BROWN CHAMBERLIN (CD) (Mrs B Samuel) F Winter 9-11-5 .... J Francome
405 111/00 CAVITY HUNTER (D) (F Tyldesley) M W Dickinson 11-11-5 .... –

4-9 Wayward Lad, 6-4 Brown Chamberlain.

FORM: Ashley House (12-0) 9th beaten over 30l to Bush Guide (rec 35lb) 11 ran. Haydock 3m 4f h'cap chase Dec 15 good to soft. Cavity Hunter (11-10) 8th beaten over 40l to Skegby (rec 21lb) 10 ran Ayr 3m 110 yd h'cap chase Jan 4 1983 good to soft. Wayward Lad (11-12) won 5l from Brown Chamberlin (level) 5 ran. Kempton 3m chase Dec 26 good.
SELECTION: Wayward Lad.

3.45 CHARLES HIGGINS HUNTERS CHASE (amateurs: £1,333: 2m 4f) (9)

502 3233/1- PRAYUKTA (D) (Mrs I Macaulay) F Winter 9-12-9 .... O Sherwood
504 42104-4 TIEPOLINO (D) (Mrs B House) K Bishop 12-12-9 .... K Bishop 7
505 414ppu- ABO (K Higson) A Moore 12-12-6 .... Miss C Moore 7
506 up3p02/ ALL RIGHT JACK (B) (H Swaffield) H Swaffield 11-12-6 .... P Swaffield 7
509 102120- CONNAUGHT RANGER (D) (Mrs Rimell) Mrs M Rimell 10-12-6 .... A Sharpe
513 3p/400- HUNTER'S JOY (Mrs D Doran) P Doran 12-12-6 .... P Doran
517 fp000/p BOBBY KEMPINSKI (T Hughes) T Hughes 10-12-2 .... D Wickett 7
520 p CORONETTA (Mrs C Taylor) Mrs C Taylor 10-11-8 .... W Taylor 7
521 0000/0- FIRM CONVICTION (Mrs B Collins) Mrs B Collins 7-11-6 .... –

5-4 Prayukta, 11-4 Connaught Ranger, 5 Tiepolino, 12 All Right Jack, 16 Hunter's Joy, 25 Abo, 33 others.

4.15 MINORS' HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o: novices: £1,882: 2m 100yd) (12)

602 0143 GALLANT BUCK (BF) (J Scott) D Elsworth 11-9 .... J H Davies 4
603 02221 NIALAN (N de Savary) J Jenkins 11-9 .... S Smith Eccles
606 423 CHINA PEAK (B) (D Schwartz) N Henderson 11-4 .... H Davies
607 0 CODGER (Col A Taylor) R Armytage 11-4 .... A Webber
609 231 EVERSEAL (BF) (Mrs O Beddington) F Winter 11-4 .... J Francome
610 KING JO (David Timothy Ltd) Mrs M Rimell 11-4 .... S Morshead
611 0 OUR WHITE HART (Mrs B Short) N Vigors 11-4 .... R Linley
612 0p PADDY O'MALLEY (A Baker) J Gifford 11-4 .... R Rowe
613 000 POLITBURO (D Higgs) J Bridger 11-4 .... R Rowell
615 2300 SOCIETY BOY (H Moutc) D Nicholson 11-4 .... P Scudamore
616 SUPERFLUOUS (Lady C Dempster) J Old 11-4 .... P Murphy
617 HECKLEY HINNY (J Coltman) G Balding 10-13 .... B Reilly

11-10 Everseal, 7-2 Gallant Buck, 6 Nialan, 10 King Jo, 14 Society Boy, Our White Hart, 20 others.

Newbury selections

By Michael Phillips

1.30 Dodgy Future. 2.0 The Mighty Mac. 2.40 Buckbe. 3.15 Brown Chamberlin. 3.45 Prayukta. 4.15 Everseal.



Going for gold: Buckbe fancied to add the Schweppes to her impressive tally this season

Ayr ITV

[Televised: 1.45, 2.15, 2.50]

GOING: Chase, good to soft; hurdles, soft

1.45 CARWINSHOCH CHASE (novices: £1,199: 2m) (5 runners)

4 42-3012 SAMORSUMTHING (CD) (D Thomson) D Thomson 9-11-9 .... T G Dun
14 u04233 OLIVE PRESS (A Mactaggart) A Mactaggart 7-10-11 .... K Teelan 7
15 0-00303 ARPAL CONQUEST (R. P. Adam Ltd) G Richards 5-10-7 .... R Lamb
16 410f04 BLACKFEET (A McInally) J S Wilson 5-10-7 .... –
17 00-0f2f PACIFIC SPLENDOUR (R Jeffreys) C H Bell 5-10-7 .... P Tuck

10-11 Samorsumthing, 7-2 Arpal Conquest, 5 Olive Press, 8 Blackfeet, 10 Pacific Splendour.

FORM: Blackfeet (11-13) 4th beaten 34l to Black Falcon (rec 15lb) Ayr 2m nov hdle Jan 4 soft. Olive Press (10-7) 3rd beaten 4l to Belcraig (rec 7lb) 6 ran. Ayr 2m nov h'cap chase Jan 3 soft. Samorsumthing (11-6) 2nd beaten 15l to Leitoch (gave 4lb) 6 ran. Newcastle 2m 5f nov chase Dec 3 good. With Arpal Conquest (11-6) 3rd beaten 10½l Visconti (gave 7lb) 9 ran. Ayr 2m 4f nov chase Jan 4 soft.
SELECTION: Arpal Conquest

2.15 LADBROKE HURDLE (novices handicap: £1,909: 2m) (16)

3 244-111 COLONEL ROSE (CD) (T Goldie) T Goldie 7-11-12 .... Mr J M Dun 7
4 030-212 PEBBLE ISLAND (Mrs R Docchar) G Richards 5-11-6 .... D Coakley 7
5 10 THE GREY BUCK (D) (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-5 .... S Charlton
8 0-40031 COMPACTOR (D) (A Hudson) R Hobson 5-11-2 .... D Shaw 4
10 0-03f31 RUN OVER (D) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-0 .... R Lamb
11 2-00230 AQUA VERDE (Mrs E Slack) Mrs E Slack 5-10-13 .... B Storey 4
13 231001 TOPLEIGH (D) (Mrs M Monteith) P Monteith 4-10-12 .... D Nolan
17 131430 FRIENDLY GLEN (D) (J Kettlewell) J Kettlewell 6-10-10 .... S Kettlewell 4
18 00302 AVON OAK (D MacDonald) D MacDonald 7-10-10 .... P Tuck
19 p-0000 MR MARSHALL (J Brock) Miss Z Green 6-10-7 .... J L Goulding
20 034300 TWAY (B) (CDL 44 Foods Ltd. 'Mr Chris') M Naughton 5-10-7 .... R O'Leary
21 000-00 KING'S HOLT (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 5-10-6 .... Mr D Franks 7
22 0244 VITRIOLIC (BF) (R Hunter) R Fisher 5-10-6 .... Mr M Meagher 7
24 40040-f ROMAN DISPLAY Miss J Palmer) J Charlton 7-10-4 .... G Bradley
26 000 SKYBOOT (Mrs B Robinson) J Townson 5-10-2 .... D Dutton
30 040404- NIMBO (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 6-10-0 .... Mr N Waggott jnr 7

5-2 Colonel Rose, 7-2 Pebble Island, 11-2 Topleigh, 6 Vitriolic, 8 Run Over, Compactor, 10 The Grey Buck, 14 others.

FORM: Avon Oak (11-0) 2nd beaten 20l to Browne's Gazette (gave 10lb) 13 ran. Kelso 2m nov hdle Jan 11 soft. Colonel Rose (11-3) won 2l from Pebble Island (gave 2lb) 6 ran. Ayr 2m nov hdle Jan 3 soft. Compactor (11-3) won ½l from Afzal (rec 5lb) with Mr Marshall (gave 4lb) 14 ran. Haydock 2m nov hdle Jan 6 good to soft. Run Over (11-0) won 4l from Sam Da Vinci (rec 4lb) with Vitriolic (rec 11lb) 10 ran. Market Rasen 2m nov hdle Nov 26 good to firm. Topleigh (11-0) won 3l from Six O Six Auction (rec 7lb) 12 ran. Kelso 2m nov hdle Jan 11 soft.
SELECTION: Pebble Island

2.50 MERCEDES-BENZ CHASE (limited handicap: £5,701: 3m 110yd) (5)

2 2211-f2 BREGAWN (BF) (J Kennelly) M W Dickinson 10-11-10 .... G Bradley
4 031140 MIDNIGHT LOVE (Carpenter Paints Ltd) Denys Smith 9-10-7 .... S Charlton
8 322211 TUDOR FOLLY (CD) (J Lisle) W A Stephenson 8-10-7 .... R Lamb
9 112321 BEAMWAM (I Clements) C H Bell 6-10-7 .... P Tuck
10 2p2240 RED CLERIC (CD) (R Illingworth) M P Naughton 10-10-7 .... R O'Leary

3 Bregawn, 11-2 Beamwam, 10 Tudor Folly, 12 Midnight Love, 16 Red Cleric.

FORM: Beamwam (11-5) won hd from Belcraig (rec 12lb) 5 ran. Kelso 2m 196 yd h'cap chase Jan 11 good to soft. Bregawn (12-3) 2nd beaten 4l to Canny Danny (rec 31lb) 5 ran. Haydock 3m h'cap chase Jan 7 good to soft. Tudor Folly (10-13) won ½l from Royal Minstrel (rec 15lb) with Red Cleric (rec 2lb) 5th beaten 15l 5 ran. Ayr 3m 110 yd h'cap chase Jan 4 soft. Midnight Love (11-9) 10th beaten over 30l to Bush Guide (rec 30lb) 11 ran. Haydock 3m 4f h'cap chase Dec 15 good to soft.
SELECTION: Bregawn

3.20 VULMIDAS CHASE (handicap: £1,600: 2m) (3)

1 11f-f11 BADSWORTH BOY (D) (D Armitage) M W Dickinson 9-12-7 .... G Bradley
4 031132 VEILED CITY (D) (F Storey) F Storey 8-10-0 .... B Storey 4
5 p2p012 BELCRAIG (CD) (Ld Kilmany) Ld Kilmany 9-10-0 .... P Tuck

1-6 Badsworth Boy, 7 Veiled City, 12 Belcraig.

3.50 FISHERTON HURDLE (handicap: £1,671: 2m) (9)

2 0010p4 SELBORNE RECORD (CD) (Selborne Engineering) C H Bell 6-11-10 .... P Tuck
3 1u0244 CAMDEN (CD) (R McDonald) R McDonald 10-11-5 .... K Jones 4
4 00-3040 MISS LOVE (D) (W Love) Denys Smith 7-11-4 .... C Grant
6 13-0001 L O BROADWAY (D) (Lt-Col D Parr) R Fisher 5-11-2 .... K Teelan 7
9 413-110 THE DIVIDER (CD) (J Aitken) Mrs T Calder 6-10-7 .... R Lamb
10 212 BLUEBIRDINO (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 5-10-3 .... S Charlton
12 1/bf-00 LIFESTYLE (CD) (Mrs F Cross) J Townson 8-10-0 .... D Dutton
13 400f11 MARK EDELSON (CD) (M Parrish) J Jefferson 7-10-0 .... M Hill 7
16 004-090 FERNEZ (D) (H McConnell) H McConnell 9-10-0 .... Mrs A Robertson

15-8 The Divider, 5-2 L O Broadway, 7-2 Selborne Record, 6 Bluebirdino, 8 Mark Edelson, 12 others.

4.20 EGLINTON HURDLE (amateurs: maidens: £924: 2m 6f) (19)

2 24 ANTONY JOE (BF) (D Daly) M W Dickinson 5-12-3 .... P Dennis 7
3 0 AUTUMN PRINCE (Walton) Mrs A Hamilton 5-12-3 .... L Hudson 7
4 04034 BIG BROWN BEAR (G Barlow) G Barlow 7-12-3 .... A Fowler
6 f0-4220 CLYDE BANK (J S Wilson) J S Wilson 7-12-3 .... A King 7
9 0-04200 FROSTY TOUCH (Mrs E Slack) Mrs E Slack 6-12-3 .... Miss D Slack 7
10 0/00 HUMMELMOOR (A Mactaggart) A Mactaggart 7-12-3 .... B Mactaggart 7
12 02 JOCKAMBEL (D Thomson) D Thomson 8-12-3 .... R Shiels 7
14 0430-04 MARACAS BAY (B) (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 5-12-3 .... N Waggott 7
15 0up MISTER WHARLES (Mrs G Carter) J Townson 6-12-3 .... C Storey 7
20 30002-4 ROMAN MARINER (B) (A Brooks) G Richards 5-12-3 .... K Darby 7
21 64-320 RUN A MILE (P Piller) W A Stephenson 5-12-3 .... P J Dun 7
22 0823 RUN LEAH RUN (C Alexander) R Fisher 5-12-3 .... M Meagher 7
23 0000/0- SPARKLING BARRON (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 7-12-3 .... Miss J Simpson 7
24 00/0-00 TAMSON'S TIPPLE (D Robertson) D Robertson 8-12-3 .... D Robertson 7
26 p0/p00 BARNS LASS (Mrs D Culham) Mrs D Culham 7-11-12 .... R Robinson 7
27 BUSH WIRE (C Hall) C Hall 9-11-12 .... Mrs G Minto 7
28 0-0 DYNADEE (W Walton) Mrs A Hamilton 6-11-12 .... Miss G Gray 7
30 0 RIGHT CLOUDY (P Liddle) P Liddle 6-11-12 .... A Kirkby 7
32 0 ALSHAHEER (B) (G Flanagan) C A Bell 4-11-5 .... –

6-4 Antony Joe, 3 Run Leah Run, 9-2 Big Brown Bear, 6 Jockambel, 8 Run A Mile, 12 others.

Ayr selections

By Michael Phillips

1.45 Samorsumthing. 2.15 Topleigh. 2.50 Bregawn. 3.20 Badsworth Boy. 3.50 Bluebirdino. 4.20 Run Leah Run.

Catterick selections

By Michael Phillips

1.30 Linen Thread. 2.0 Not Easy. 2.30 Ashley House. 3.0 John Bunyan. 3.30 Rag Dancer. 4.0 B and K Emperor. 4.30 Voolin.

Grant returns from injury with winner

Chris Grant, out since the start of the season with a serious leg injury, returned to racing at Ayr yesterday with a winner. Grant, who broke a thigh at Market Rasen, partnered Shaw Brow to victory for Denys Smith in the second division of the Lagg Novice's Hurdle.

Fine Sun, making his first appearance in National Hunt racing, appeared to have the race sewn up when going clear two out but a mistake at the last handed the race to his rival.

Black Falcon emerged as a candidate for the Triumph Hurdle when hacking up by six lengths from Silver Season in the first division of the Novice Hurdle at Ayr.

William Hill cut Black Falcon's price for Cheltenham from 50-1 to 33-1.

Tony Charlton, Black Falcon's jockey, completed a double on Grinders in the Marchburn Novices' Chase but admitted he was fortunate to win, Brunton Park, the odds-on favourite, had the race in safe keeping until falling two from home.

Newbury results

Going: Chase Course, Good; Hurdles, Good to soft.

1.30 ALDERMASTON CHASE (novices: £2,087: 2m 160yd)

AREUS b g, by Spartan General – Arkaba (Mrs B Samuel) 8-11-3 .... J Francome (9-1) 1
Autumn Sun .... R Arnott 25-1) 2
Connaught River .... P Scudamore (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.70. Places: £2.80, £4.60, £2.80. DF: £110.90. CSF: £192.59. F Winter at Lambourn. 5l, 2½l. Golden Friend (3-1 fav). Charjim (33-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Sympatique.

2.0 THATCHAM CHASE (handicap: £2,763. 2m 4f)

CAPTAIN DYNAMO b g, by Deep Run – Viasse (H Plotnek) 8-11-12 .... P Scudamore (7-2) 1
Staccato .... M Richards (11-2) 2
Gambling Prince .... J Burke (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.40. Places: £1.10, £1.90, £2.50. DF: £12.50. CSF: £20.90. D Nicholson at Stow-on-the-Wold. 4l, 10l. Golden Trix (5-2 fav). Romany Count (11-2) 4th. 8 ran.

2.30 STROUD GREEN HURDLE (Grade 2: 4-y-o: £4,833: 2m)

CHILDOWN b c, by Sadair – Swoonson Gal (R Clifford-Turner) 11-0 .... H Davies (5-2 fav) 1
Son of a Gunner .... M Perrett (11-2) 2
Easter Lee .... J Francome (7-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.80, £2.30. DF: £4.40. CSF: £15.77. N Henderson at Lambourn. 2l, hd. Oregon Trail (9-2) 4th. 7 ran.

3.0 HARWELL CHASE (handicap: £3,023: 3m)

SOINTULLA BOY br g, by Sit in the Corner – Rest in the Sun (Mrs H Houlbrooke) 9-11-5 .... Mrs T Houlbrooke (50-1) 1
King Ba Ba .... M Perrett (8-1) 2
Hill of Slane .... S Smith Eccles (100-30 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £167.10. Places: £17.70, £2.30, £1.30, £1.20. DF: £1,687. CSF: £357.33. Tricast: £1,549.96. Mrs H Houlbrooke at Ledbury. 1½l, 7l. Musso (11-2) 4th. 16 ran.

3.30 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (novices: £1,787: 2m 11yd)

CLUTTERBUCK b g, by Mandamus – Clay Duck (D Horton) 6-11-5 .... J Francome (12-1) 1
Deep Impression .... S Smith Eccles (11-2) 2
Sign Again .... S Jobar (11-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £7.00. Places: £2.60, £3.50, £3.40. DF: £21.60. CSF: £137.059. F Winter at Lambourn. 2l, ½l. Wyford (20-1) 4th. Prideaux Boy (2-1 fav). 27 ran.

4.0 CRICKLADE HURDLE (handicap: £2,537: 2m 4f 120yd)

KRUG br g, by Relko – Misplanted (S Tindall) 6-11-8 .... M Perrett (12-1) 1
Cocaine .... S Smith Eccles (12-1) 2
Mossat .... M Williams (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £13.80. Places: £2.70, £2.50, £1.50, £2.80. DF: £78.10. CSF: £122.39. Tricast: £1,156.79. S Mellor at Lambourn. Nk, ¾l. Ninestones (7-1) 4th. Krisanson (6-1 fav). 18 ran.

Tote double: £32.35; treble: £27.25. Jackpot not won. Placepot: £919.10.

Ayr

Going: soft

1.45 OLD TOLL HURDLE (handicap: conditional jockeys: £864: 2m 6f)

SOLARES br g by Free State – Indian Wells (J Berry 4-10-2 .... A Houlker (9-2) 1
Gunsmith .... D Coakley (16-1) 2
Steve King .... M Berry (7-2 jt fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.30. Places: £1.70, £3.40, £1.500. DF: £129.90. CSF: £63.73. Tricast: 255.45. J Berry at Cockerham. 7l, 1½l. Mr McCann (7-2 jt fav) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Chetel.

2.15 HAMILTON-CAMPBELL CHASE (handicap: £1,885: 2m 4f)

SNOW BLESSED br h by So Blessed – Snow Tiba (R Baker) 7-10-7 .... S Charlton (7-4) 1
Hope Of Oak .... G Bradley (6-4 fav) 2
Caherty .... Mr P Craggs (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £1.10, £1.40. DF: £3.20. CSF: £4.35. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. 1½l, 10l. Corker (7-1) 4th. 6 ran.

2.45 LAGG HURDLE (Div I: novices: £784: 2m)

BLACK FALCON b h by Irish Ruler – Sebago (W Graham) 4-11-2 .... P A Charlton (8-13 fav) 1
Silver Season .... J H Davies (16-1) 2
All Night Long .... J L Goulding (100-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £1.10, £3.70, £19.50. DF: £11.80. CSF: £12.88. M Lambert at Malton. 6l, hd. Dick 'E' Bear (12-1) 4th 17 ran.

3.15 DOONHOLM CHASE (novice handicap: £1,395: 2m 4f)

VILLIERSTOWN b g by Giolla Mear – Chammyville (W A Stephenson) 5-10-5 .... R Lamb (4-1) 1
Starmase .... D Coakley (20-1) 2
Swift Messenger .... N Doughty (5-2 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.80. Places: £1.10, £10.70, £1.10. DF: £219.70. CSF: £58.51. W A Stephenson at Bishop Auckland. 4l, 1½l. Green Menelek (10-1) 4th. 11 ran.

3.45 MARCHBURN CHASE (novices: £1,273: 3m 110yd)

GRINDERS ch g by Baragoi – Troison D'Or (Needhams Butchers) 6-11-2 .... P A Charlton (5-2) 1
Slasher .... T G Dun (25-1) 2
Sea Champion .... Mr P Craggs (100-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.90. Places: £1.60, £4.70, £5.60. DF: £157.20. CSF: £50.68. E Carter at Malton. 15l, 1½l. Gortnahoe Boy (14-1) 4th. Brunton Park (8-13fav), 9 ran.

4.15 LAGG HURDLE (div II: novices: £798: 2m

SHAW BROW b g by Mandrake Major – Wayside Dancer (Denys Smith 4-10-9 .... C Grant (12-1) 1
Fine Sun .... D Wilkinson (4-5fav) 2
Royal Laser .... Ruth Hargreaves (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £14.20. Places: £1.90, £1.20, £9.10. DF: £8.90. CSF: £18.62. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. 2½l, 10l. Dunsinane (16-1) 4th. 11 ran.

PLACEPOT: £804.55.

Uttoxeter

Going: Heavy

1.45 SANDOWN HURDLE (DIV I: Novices: (£718 2m 1f)

SOLIDOR ch g by Songedor – Madzoro 8-11-0 .... N Pepper (11-4) 1
Final Sept .... M Pepper(11-10fav) 2
Amber Rambler .... S Youlden (11-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.600. Places: £1.70, £1.00, £1.80. DF: £2.80. CSF: £5.71. O Brennan at Newark. 10l, hd. Energies (16-1) 4th. 11 ran. NR: Gunner Blue, Johannesburg.

2.15 MILWICH HURDLE. (Selling: Handicap (£795: 2m 1f)

SWITCH OFF gr g by Reformed Character – Mrs Laudo 5-10-6 .... J D Davies(6-1) 1
Greenacres Joy .... P Double (20-1) 2
Perdiccas .... P Dever (16-1e) 3

TOTE: Win: £8.40. Places: £2.50, £9.30, £3.80. DF: £376.50. CSF: £119.85. TRICAST: £1,709.20. Mrs J Evans at Llanymynech. ½, 4l. Shirley Grove (4-1 jt.fav) 4th. Padiakee (4-1 jt.fav) 14 ran. Bought in 2,000yrs.

2.45 COLWICH CHASE. Handicap: £1,611. 2m 4f.

DON'T WAIT br g by Royal Highway – Fragrant 8-10-10 .... Mr P J Dun (7-4fav) 1
Intoxicated .... M Brennan(100-1) 2
Ocean Cruise .... M Pepper(25-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.30. Places: £1.70, £5.00, £3.90. DF: £46.80. CSF: £71.04. W A Stephensonat Bishop Aukland. 4l, 4l. Kumbi (11-1) 4th. 8 ran.

3.15 FIELD CHASE (novices: £2,573: 3m 2f)

HY-KO b g by Salko – Digynia 8-11-7. .... P Barton (7-1) 1
Sea Spice .... R Earnshaw(11-8 jt fav) 2
West Tip .... Mr J Weston(11-8 jt fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £6.90. Places: £1.90. £1.30. £1.50. DF: £18.20. CSF: £18.25. D Gandolfo at Wantage. 3l, 4l. Royal Norman (20-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Vendevar, Tara's News.

3.45 FULFORD CHASE. (novice handicap: £1,383: 2m 1f)

SIR LESTER b g by Bend A Bow - Trusty Girl 8-10-4 .... A Griffiths (10-1) 1
Glen Mey .... S McNeill (5-4 fav) 2
Bean Mugged .... P Barton (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £7.50. Places: £2.00, £1.20, £2.00. DF: £7.90. CSF: £20.90. Tricast: £80.94. J Thomas at Cowbridge. 5l, 2l. Castel Royale (6-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR Foxley Mel.

4.15 SANDON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £727: 2m 1f

CHAMP CHICKEN b g by Pitpan – Bob's Hansel 5-11-0 .... K Doolan (4-1 jt fav) 1
Feats Right .... N Madden(6-2) 2
Conscription .... P Blackburn(16-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £5.60. Places: £2.30, £1.60, £9.50. DF: £13.60. CSF: £22.46. D McCain at Southport. 3l, ¾l. Breezy Glen (6-1) 4th. Cumulus (4-1 jt fav) 17 ran. Placepot £18.00.

Catterick Bridge

GOING: Good

1.30 BROUGH HURDLE (Mares: novices: £664: 2m) (21 runners)

4 481 RUN IN TUNE (D Eddy 5-11-8 .... C Pimlott
5 000 BRIGHT IMP R Bethell 5-11-1 .... –
6 00- CARR ROSE Mrs G Sunter 6-11-1 .... E McIntyre
8 2f0p DANCING NYMPH (J G FitzGerald 5-11-1 .... M Dwyer
12 63 INDIAN CALL Hbt Jones 5-11-1 .... D Oldham
13 LINEN THREAD M W Dickinson 5-11-1 .... J D Davies 7
14 0048 LITTLE MITTENS R Barr 6-11-1 .... P Dever 4
15 0ff LUCYLET Mrs G Reveley 5-11-1 .... G W Gray
16 3043 MAGGIES GIRL Denys Smith 5-11-1 .... J Murphy
18 PURPLE BEAM T Barnes 5-11-1 .... M Barnes
20 000 SPARTANDO (Lady Arbuthnot 6-11-1 .... D McCaskill
22 TRACK SECRET E Weymes 5-11-1 .... C Bell 4
23 6 VINO FESTA J Parkes 5-11-1 .... K Milner
24 419 MAID OF MILAN (BF) M H Easterby 4-10-12 .... A Brown
25 0321 SWEET COLLEEN (D) M W Easterby 4-10-12 .... A Dickman
26 0 BRIANELA T Fairhurst 4-10-5 .... C Fairhurst
27 0 CHIKALA Miss S Hall 4-10-5 .... C Hawkins
29 MEHRAGAN M Lambert 4-10-5 .... P A Charlton
32 0 ORANGE BLOSSOM R Thompson 4-10-5 .... Jayne Thompson 7
34 6 PICKERING FAIR M Ellerby 4-10-5 .... Mandy Harrison 7
35 2 RIGTON SALLY H Wharton 4-10-5 .... S Youlden 7

5-2 Sweet Colleen, 3 Linen Thread, 7-2 Maid Of Milan, 6 Run In Time, Rigton Sally, 10 Maggies Girl, 12 Mehragan, 14 Indian Call, 16 others.

2.0 BRIDGE HOTEL HURDLS (selling: £568: 2m) (19)

1 0-300 ADDERBURY LAD J Townson 5-11-8 .... R Stronge 4
5 0000 DEMON KING A Smith 5-11-8 .... Miss J Grinyer
7 10-32 MY HABAT (B) (CD) F Watson 5-11-8 .... J Hansen 4
8 SINGING JOHNNY R Woodhouse 5-11-8 .... A Dickman
9 0402 TUMBLE JIM (B) M Naughton 5-11-8 .... C Bell
12 GLENDYKE W Storey 5-11-3 .... D Wilkinson
13 100 SUMERLAND (C) R Thompson 4-11-0 .... A Brown
14 31 NOT EASY D W Chapman 4-10-9 .... C Pimlott
15 0 BETTER BUILDER M Naughton 4-10-7 .... G Byrne 7
17 p HOLLIGREEN D Yeoman 4-10-7 .... S Keightley
18 048 HOLLY BUOY M Avison 4-10-7 .... M Dwyer
19 0p OUR PRETENDER R Woodhouse 4-10-7 .... C Hawkins
21 0030 WOOL ISLAND (B) G Lockerbie 4-10-7 .... J Berkley
22 p DELIGHTFUL TERN P Wigham 4-10-2 .... P Caldwell 7
23 0 FREEDOM GLORY T Fairhurst 4-10-2 .... C Fairhurst
24 00 GOOD GOING GIRL R Swiers 4-10-2 .... M Barnes
25 300 MISS SINCLAIR M Lambert 4-10-2 .... P A Charlton
26 000 PALACE OF LOVE H Fleming 4-10-2 .... M Pepper 4
27 REGAL BLISS S Norton 4-10-2 .... P Dever 4

9-4 Summerland, 3 Miss Sinclair, 4 My Habat, 5 Not Easy, 8 Wool Island, 10 Regal Bliss, 16 others.

2.30 CATTERCK GRAND NATIONAL TRIAL-SCHASE (handicap: £3,101: 3m 4f) (11)

1 0-220 ASHLEY HOUSE (D) (BF) M W Dickinson 10-11-7 .... C Bell 4
3 0-p04 RIGHTHAND MAN (C) (M W Dickinson 7-10-11 .... Mr R J Beggan 4
4 1f/00- CAVITY HUNTER M W Dickinson 11-10-10 .... –
7 010-0 PARKLANDS (D) H Wharton 9-10-0 .... P Barry
9 31-11 LITTLE FRENCHMAN E Robson 11-10-0 .... C Pimlott
10 1-3ff CANTON N Crump 10-10-0 .... D Wilkinson
11 214-p NARVIK (B) N Crump 11-10-0 .... C Hawkins
13 u3-23 HONOURABLE MAN Mrs P Russell 11-10-0 .... M Dwyer
16 f231 SAM WREKIN C H Bell 6-10-0 .... –
17 1u-u FOUR FATHOMS J Parkes 10-10-0 .... K Milner
19 2202 PRETTY LASS R Woodhouse 7-10-0 .... –

6-4 Ashley House, 100-30 Righthand Man, 6 Cavity Hunter, 7 Little Frenchman, 8 Honourable Man, 10 Canton, 16 others.

3.0 NORTHERN HUNTER CHASE (amatuers: £674: 3m 300yd) (21)

3 12f4- EARLS BRIG W Hamilton 9-12-7 .... P Craggs
4 f11- JOHN BUNYAN Mrs R Newton 9-12-7 .... J Newton
6 2f34- SOLAR BEE W Reed 9-12-7 .... T Reed 7
7 1020- WILLOW BURN R Brewis 10-12-7 .... A Dudgeon 7
8 21f4- ARTHUR'S BELL J Wright 8-12-4 .... A Wight 7
9 p/ VIKING KNIGHT Mrs N Lofthouse 11-12-4 .... Miss A Beaumont 7
10 0-00u CAIRNIE F Baxter 8-12-0 .... –
11 pe/44- CALDWELL CASE R Swiers 9-12-0 .... S Swiers
12 p344/ DEEP LIGHT W Boocock 11-12-0 .... J Kelleher
13 p0fp- INVISIBLE MAN E Govan 9-12-0 .... C Sample
15 00/3f- LINAMAC Mrs H Aitken 9-12-0 .... –
16 ORCHARD KNIGHT T Cunningham 9-12-0 .... S Cunningham
17 404- PEACE CLASH W A Stephenson 7-12-0 .... J Greenall 7
18 pp-00 PELARO R Johnson 8-12-0 .... –
19 RUDDING RUMOUR G Baxter 11-12-0 .... G P Baxter 7
20 pu32- URSER M W Easterby 10-12-0 .... R J Beggan 4
21 0/ BURNTWOOD LADY M Avison 13-11-13 .... Mrs J Wilson 7
22 BISHOPS BELL Miss C Mason 6-11-9 .... C Cundall
23 00/4u- GO LIGHTLY J Haldane 7-11-9 .... J Scott 7
25 u- SHINING BANN R Johnson 9-11-9 .... P Johnson 7
26 33/p- TALLULAH D G Smith 11-11-9 .... T Smith 7

Evens Earls Brig, 11-4 John Bunyan, 7 Urser, 8 Willow Burn, 12 Arthur's Bell, 14 Peace Clash, 20 others.

3.30 SCORTON CHASE (Div I: novices: £1,140: 2m) (14)

4 1-001 AVERSUN W Haigh 8-11-9 .... P A Charlton
7 40-pf ALLI-RECO F Watson 6-11-2 .... H Hansen 4
9 21-00 BELLE ISLE WALK Denys Smith 7-11-2 .... J Murphy
14 0u0-3 GOLDEN TY J Parkes 6-11-2 .... K Milner
15 33/u4- GO ON JOE J Richardson 10-11-2 .... D Oldham
16 0-00 GRANGE MINSTREL R Spicer 7-11-2 .... A Coogan
18 ff/u-0 JESTING SPIRIT D Lee 9-11-2 .... C McMatrick 7
19 0/0-0p KIRKBY LAD W Tinning 10-11-2 .... C Pimlott
21 4f-p0 NORTHERN KNIGHT R Thompson 7-11-2 .... A Brown
22 1-000 RAG DANCER W Elsey 7-1-2 .... P Dever
25 0020 SLOANE STREET J Dooler 7-11-2 .... C Hawkins
31 0uff WESTERN MAN J FitzGerald 9-11-2 .... M Dwyer
32 0400 WESTWOOD DEAL M Naughton 7-1-2 .... J A Harris
37 0000 MICK'S RITUAL M W Easterby 5-10-7 .... Mr R J Beggan 4

8-4 Rag Dancer, 2 Western Man, 11-2 Aversun, 12 Sloane Street, Golden Ty, 14 Westwood Girl, 16 others.

4.0 SCORTON CHASE (Div II: novices: £1,140: 2m) (14)

1 2111 B AND K EMPEROR M W Easterby 7-12-2 .... Mr R J Beggan 4
10 0300- BOX OF TRICKS D Metcalfe 9-11-2 .... M Pepper 4
13 00- GLEN DUE W Storey 7-11-2 .... E McIntyre
24 00-30 SECRET MINSTREL J Peres 7-11-2 .... –
26 p SPRING CAMP R Tate 6-11-2 .... –
27 1614 STRAIGHT DOWN N Crump 7-11-2 .... C Hawkins
28 00 SUNSHINE LIE M Lambert 10-11-2 .... P A Charlton
29 0203 TARTAN TRADER G Richards 7-11-2 .... J Hansen 4
30 p4 TRAHGUAF W Holden 6-11-2 .... M F Dalton
33 3121 ORP BALTIC (D) E Alston 5-11-0 .... M Brisbourne
34 0-fp2 JOYFUL STAR J Dixon 7-10-11 .... A Brown
35 4232 THELMAS SECRET T Barnes 7-10-11 .... M Barnes
36 pu00 AIR SPACE J Parkes 5-10-7 .... K Milner
38 2010 MIGUEL CLEMENT M W Dickinson 5-10-7 .... –

9-4 B And K Emperor, 11-4 Tartan Trader, 9-2 Thelma's Secret, 5 Orp Baltic, 7 Miguel Clement, 8 Straight Down, 14 Joyful Star, 16 others.

4.30 ASKE HURLDE (handicap: £951: 2m) (22)

2 3331 JUPITER EXPRESS (CD) J FitzGerald 5-11-12 .... M Dwyer
3 3-001 VOOLIN (D) (CD) N Crump 5-11-4 .... –
5 212-4 CRACKHILL (D) Miss Hall 5-11-0 .... P Dever 4
6 220/1 PITTENCRIEFF (CD) E Weymes 9-10-13 .... C Pimlott
8 1-000 EMANDAR (D) H Wharton 5-10-12 .... S Youlden 7
10 0033 BAVAL D Yeoman 7-10-9 .... Mr M Thompson 7
11 22-6 PRIMROSE WOOD (D) G Richards 6-10-8 .... J Hansen 4
13 f123 KARENOMORE (D) M H Easterby 6-10-4 .... A Brown
14 04/00 SINGALONG SAM (D) F Watson 7-10-0 .... T G Davies 4
16 310-0 VITINGO (D) D Yeoman 5-10-0 .... S Keightley
17 3p22 EL DJEM P Wigham 5-10-0 .... P Caldwell 7
18 0203 GAY WALK (D) J Dooler 8-10-0 .... D Oldham
19 0203 HOUGHTON WEAVER (D) W Holden 5-10-0 .... Mr R J Beggan 4
20 00-0p BEAMOF (D) (B) P Curtis 5-10-0 .... DOUBTFUL
21 24-22 GUN (BF) (B) D Yeoman 7-10-0 .... –
22 0-002 HIGH POPPA P(D) O Brennan 5-10-0 .... M Brennan
23 1403 SICILLIAN GOLD (D) G Harman 7-10-0 .... –
24 0120- LINATEA (CD) P Curtis 9-10-0 .... D Wilkinson
25 2210 MARJORAM (CD) (BF) H Fleming 5-10-0 .... M Pepper 4
26 p0-00 VICTORY MORN J Dixon 8-10-0 .... M Barnes
27 0-000 BARON DE HOLLAND (D) C Wardman 10-10-0 .... R Bellour 7
28 00-00 INDIAN RETREAT Lady Arbuthnot 5-10-0 .... D McCaskill

4 Voolin, 8-2 Jupiter Express, 6 Pittencrieff, 7 Crackhill, Baval, Karenomore, 8 Primrose Wood, 12 Emandar, El Djem, 16 others.

هكذا من الأصل

Law Report February 11 1984

Whether driving disability 'likely'

Bennington v Peter
Regina v Swaffham Justices, Ex parte Peter
Before Mr Justice Woolf
[Judgment delivered February 7]

In determining whether an applicant for a heavy goods vehicle (hgv) driver's licence suffered from a disease or disability "likely to cause the driving by him of a heavy goods vehicle to be a source of danger to the public" so as to disqualify him from holding a licence within rule 4 of the Heavy Goods Vehicle (Drivers' Licences) Regulations (SI 1977 No 1309), the word "likely" should be interpreted as meaning something more than a bare possibility but less than probable.

By virtue of section 118(4) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, an hgv driver's licence which would otherwise have expired, remained in force pending the disposal by justices of an appeal from a licensing authority's refusal to renew the licence. Section 118(4) did not provide for continuation of the licence pending the disposal of an appeal by case stated by the High Court. Nor did section 118(2) empower the justices to make an order having that effect.

Mr Justice Woolf, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, so held, allowing Mr Malcolm Hugh Bennington's appeal by case stated against the decision of the Swaffham Justices on August 22, 1983, who dismissed his appeal from Mr Kenneth Peter, the licensing authority for the Eastern Traffic Area on October 28, 1982, who refused to renew Mr Bennington's licence.

His Lordship further granted an application for judicial review by the licensing authority against the justices' order that Mr Bennington's licence should continue in force until the disposal of his appeal by case stated.

Mr Bennington's application for amendment of the case stated was not pursued.

Mr Gareth Williams, QC and Mr Timothy Dutton for Mr Bennington, Mr Simon D. Brown for the licensing authority.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that Mr Bennington had held an hgv driver's licence for 18 years. Such a licence had to be renewed every three years. For the last 16 years he had been an insulin-dependent diabetic.

The licensing authority and the justices on appeal took the view that Mr Bennington should not be granted a further licence on health grounds. Hearing that he intended to appeal against their decision, the justices ordered that his previous licence, which would otherwise have expired, should continue in force pending the outcome of his appeal by case stated.

In so ordering, the justices must have been acting under section 118(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1972. But that subsection, despite its wide wording, clearly did not empower justices to make such an order: see R v Ipswich Justices, Ex parte Robson ([1971] 2 QB 340).

A more difficult question was whether the justices needed to make an order.

Section 118(4) of the 1972 Act provided that where the holder of a current licence applied for but was refused a further licence and appealed to justices against the refusal, the existing licence continued in force "until the appeal has been disposed of . . .".

Counsel for Mr Bennington submitted that that meant until the matter had been finally disposed of, for example by way of an appeal by case stated. But, in his Lordship's judgment, if Parliament had intended the subsection to have that effect, it would have used very clear language to do so: compare section 88(3) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 and section 64 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

"Disposed of" in section 118(4) meant disposed of by the justices.

The reason for the justices' dismissal of Mr Bennington's appeal was to be found in paragraph 3 of the case stated, namely, "it could not be said that he would not suffer from a hypoglycaemia attack whilst driving a heavy goods vehicle in future". But that did not correctly reflect the requirements of rule 4 of the 1977 Regulations, which provided that an applicant for a licence should not suffer from a disease or disability "likely" to cause his driving to be a source of danger to the public.

"Likely" in that context meant something more than a bare possibility but less than probable.

In the circumstances the justices had erred in law by applying the wrong test and the matter would be remitted to them. The appeal before the justices which had been disposed of would therefore be revived and the applicant's licence would accordingly continue in force by virtue of section 118(4).

Solicitors: Ward, Gethin & Co, King's Lynn; Treasury Solicitor.

Allowing enough time for sex disputes

Creagh v Speedway Sign Service Ltd

When allowing an appeal from an industrial tribunal's dismissal of a sex discrimination complaint on the ground that there had been an error of law the Employment Appeal Tribunal reminded industrial tribunals of the need to take sufficient time over the hearing of sex discrimination cases.

MR JUSTICE WAITE, sitting with Mr J. Powell and Ms P. Smith, on February 7, said that sex discrimination was a sensitive and complex branch of the law arousing strong feelings.

The Sex Discrimination Act 1975 was a complex statute involving the interplay of broad principles of deemed discrimination with specified categories of permitted exception for which there were varying burdens of proof. Any tribunal confronted with a complaint of sex discrimination in an employment context could expect troubled waters ahead.

Keeping a case within reasonable bounds on the one hand and giving each side the fullest opportunity of stating their views of the circumstances on the other, were likely to prove potentially conflicting objectives. It was desirable to achieve a balanced reconciliation between the two objectives.

Learning how to manage money

Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, finds economics made interesting in a varitey of ways

Economics should be taught in schools, according to Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education. It should be taught to everyone, not as a subject in its own right but across the curriculum so that children have some idea of what the minister likes to call "the economic facts of life".

Many would share Sir Keith's wish though perhaps not the political gloss which he puts on the teaching of economics. There are signs of a growing awareness of how illiterate we are as a nation when it comes to both econmics and politics. To illustrate the point Sir Keith describes how sixformers he meets do not know the answer to the question "Where do jobs come from?"

In the independent schools, which have often pioneered curriculum reform, there is evidence of economics being introduced to boys in the fourth and fifth form and of new and more exciting teaching methods. Westministe School in London is one such institution.

Last autumn a new head of economics was appointed, Daniel Jeffereys, aged 28, who was given the enviable task of restarting the economics department in the way he wanted. He had begun a new course in political economy for 14 and 15-year-olds which carries no examination but attempts to teach young high-fliers how to think like economists.

Mr Jeffreys says that understanding economics is basically about understanding four key concepts: rationality, opportunity cost, marginality and efficiency. This thinking lies behind both his teaching of the 14 and 15-year-olds and those in the sixth form. The latter have a choice of two A levels: economic theory and applied economics or economic theory and economic history.

"Once students within the the department have a basic understanding of these key concepts their work is based on developing the depth of their understanding through problem solving," says Mr Jeffreys. "This emphasis upon problem solving means that static descriptive work is rare. Instead each student is encouraged to see his assignments as similar to the kind of work that might be undertaken by a professional economist."

I sat in on the fifth year class, called Upper Shell at Westminster, to observe the new subject and the Jeffreys teaching method. It was delight to watch. A group of 11 boys (girls do not appear until the sixth form at Westminster) had chosen the option in preference to art, divinity and music.

The subject was opportunity cost. "What is the cost to you of being here today?" Jeffreys began. Replies varied from surrender of leisure time to – with a little prompting – the surrender of alternative subjects.

"You are making a choice", he said. "In order to increase your own satisfaction you need to make choices. Is it important that you make effective choices?" Yes, the boys agreed on that. "You have to think before you spend", piped up one boy. "You have got to think whether something is worth buying", said another. Jeffreys summed it up: "You try to maximise satisfaction at the cheapest price."

The class progressed, by way of a sad story about a man who could not sell the gearboxes his factory had made, to case studies of four 18-year-olds who won £1,000 each and had to decide what to do with the money.

One girl gave up her secretarial job to take a stall in an open-air market and sell the prints, pots and jewelry she made. This had cost her £1,000 but earned her £1,625 in three months.

One boy, an athlete, kept his money under his bed for the day when he would buy an air fare to New York to run in the Big Apple marathon. A second boy invested his sum in a building society and made £50 in three months. The fourth – a girl – bought an antique vase for £375 on an informed hunch that it was worth more than that. It was. She sold it at Sotheby's for £700.

The class agreed that the athlete had made a thoroughly bad decision. Asked to choose who made the best economic decision, a few voted for the small-time entrepreneur with her open-air stall and the rest plumped equally for the safe bet in the building society and the enterprising girl with an eye for a vase.

From the personal and every day Jeffreys moved to macro-level economics. An article reproduced from The Economist about the vanishing rain forests of Brazil was used to illustrate the opportunity cost of jungle exploitation. The boys pored over an impossible-looking graph. But they seemd to have kept up and to have found the lesson interesting, taking part in lively discussion.

I pointed out one boy in the front row afterwards who had struck me as being particularly quick and perceptive. "Oh, yes, that's Tiny Rowlands's son," came the reply.

Another independent school teaching economics as a non-examination subject is Harrow where Sir Keith Joseph was educated. It runs a course called "Facts of ecomonic life" for sixth formers. Mr Brian Hurl, an economics teacher at the school explained its value. "We are turning the students into intelligent and informed readers of The Times", he said. "Instead of dodging articles by Frances Williams, the economics correspondent, they will actually read her."

But Mr Hurl sounded a note of caution about the difficulty of fitting economics for all into the curriculum. Something had to be forfeited for it, he said.

Colfe's School in Blackheath, south London, teaches a broad economics course to the 14 to 16-year-old age range with an examination at the end of the two-year course. Mr Vivian Anthony, head of Colfe's, explains that this course is less theoretical than A level and more concerned with current issues such as inflation, unemployment, the banking system, the balance of payments and the problems of British industry.

Only 20 out of about 100 boys at 14 opt for it and there is a pass rate of 76 per cent at O level. The high-fliers are not allowed to choose it. Like Mr Hurl, Mr Anthony said the important question to ask was what people had to give up in order to study economics.

There had been the same problem with computer studies. Classics and history were being crowded out with the advent of computers and economics in schools. A level economics has in fact become a popular subject, ranking about fifth. At Charterhouse it is even more popular than that with 130 studying it in the sixth form.

Mr Robert Ingram, head of the economics and politis department at Charterhouse, said he was all in favour of Sir Keith's idea for economics for all in schools. What he would like is a broad O level in the social sciences to give children the tools they would need later as citizens to make decisions about their lives.

He said he was not in favour – and did not believe any self-respecting teacher was in favour – of converting children to any particular political party. "I am in favour of an analysis of how our system of government works, what the parties stand for with no attempt to make out that any party's point of view is any better than any other."

Sir Keith has also said he would like to see the teaching of economic literacy linked to political understanding. But he goes further and spells out the values which he thinks should be taught.

Opening the new Economic Research and Curriculum Unit at London University last month Sir Keith said: "I hope the unit will bear in mind the ultimate simplicities, that there is a link between decentralized ownership and decentralized decision-making which is, after all, what we mean by free enterprise and capitalism and we call freedom".

Not everyone would agree with that. For help with economics teaching teachers would do a lot worse than study the materials produced under the auspices of the Economics Association by Manchester University called Understanding Economics. It focuses on economic concepts and issues related to the role of the young person as a consumer, producer and citizen. Pupils are encouraged to reveal and clarify their own personal values in the course in order to develop a clearer understanding of the distinction between facts and values in economic issues.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to:

THE TIMES
200 Gray's Inn Road
London
WC1X 8EZ

or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon. (837 3333 only). For publication the following day, phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page, £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (i.e. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime 'phone number.

... The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits. St James 3: 17.

BIRTHS

BATESON.—On 27th January, to Julia (née Wilken) and William Bateson—a son (James Perry).

CAMERON.—On February 8th, in Edinburgh, to Shenach and Nigel, a daughter, Miriam Elizabeth McKerrell, sister for Anastasia, Lydia and Daniel.

de HAMEL.—On Jan 26th to Christine and Christopher—a son (Edwin Willoughby Rivers).

FINLAYSON. On February 7 to Anne (née Osborn) and Alastair, a son, Stuart Alexander.

GEIGER.—On 27th January, at Univer...

IN MEMORIAM

SCOTT.—In loving memory of Walter Leonard Winstone Scott, died February 6, 1975, aged 84. Dearly loved husband of Joan, and father of Charles, John and Andrew.

WADIA.—In proud and grateful memory of my dearly beloved husband Sir Cusrow Wadia on his birthday Feb 11th. Born 1869 died October 3rd, 1950.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

s/w we hold on file

THE HIBBERT TRUST

A Lecture - Discussion,

"VOICES OF PROTEST-VOICES OF PROMISES:

Exploring Spirituality for a New Age".

(Peace, Feminism and Spirituality),

by Ursula King (Univ of Leeds).

Chair: Libby Purves

Jeffrey Hall, Inst of Education,

20 Bedford Way, London WC1

Friday 17th Feb, 6.15 pm. Adm Free.

OLYMPICS IN LOS ANGELES? Record producer wants to exchange his magnificent canyon home near Beverley Hills, sleeps 8, scenic views, swimming pool, jacuzzi, housekeeper and use of car. Villa of similar quality sought in South of France or Tuscany. Mid July to mid August. Telephone 01-485 0064, after 6 pm.

WERE YOU A 1930s SKIER? ...

DEATHS

FASHION AND BEAUTY

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Phelps Pianos — THE COMPLETE SERVICE IN Rental, Repairs, Tuning AND SALES. Tel: 01-485-2042. 47-51 Fortess Rd London NW5 1AD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOGETHER, WE CAN BEAT CANCER

Help us to fight Britain's biggest killer.

British Heart Foundation

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CYPRUS

INDIA

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN MEMORIAM

PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

AUSTRALASIA AND WORLDWIDE

Since 1970 Trailfinders have set the pace in low cost flights.
Sydney ....£327 o/w £615 rtn.
Auckland ....£399 o/w £737 rtn.
Jo'burg ....£330 o/w £461 rtn.
Bangkok ....£181 o/w £363 rtn.
Rio £469 rtn. .... Lima £446 rtn.
Around The World from £691

TRAILFINDERS TRAVEL CENTRE
44/48 Earls Court Road, London W8 6EJ.
Europe/USA Flights: 01-937 5400
Long Haul Flights: 01-937 9631
Government licensed/bonded
ABTA ATOL 1458

ITALY

A Country for Everone

Return prices from:- (incl. airport taxes)

MILANO £85 TREVISO £95
BOLOGNA £85 PALERMO £110
ROMA £101 NAPOLI £105

PILGRIM – AIR
44 Goodge Street
London W1P 1FH
01-637 5333
ATOL 173

ALGARVE

Private houses in unusual and beautiful locations away from the crowds. Lovely apts on sandy bay.

CORFU & PAXOS

The lazy life in the quietest corners of these beautiful Greek islands.

Lowest prices, no surcharges, early booking discounts. Ring NOW for our stunning brochures.

CORFIOT HOLIDAYS
SLOUGH (0753) 48811 or 46277 (24 hours)
ABTA ATOL 1427 AITO

ROYAN, LA ROCHELLE, IL DE RE, CHARENTE, + THE DORDOGNE

All kinds of high quality accommodation still available, some with pools. All properties personally inspected. For brochure + further details please phone:

(040924) 662 or write to:-

AU SOLEIL HOLIDAYS LTD
Kismeldon, Pulford, Devon. EX22 7XH

TUSCANY

13th C. Castello di Gargonza, once the refuge of Dante now sensitively restored in beautiful rural surroundings 1 hour South of Florence between Siena & Arezzo. Fully furnished flats/houses for 2-8 persons.

For brochures & accommodation contact

Mrs M. J. McGrath,
11 Elmwood Rd, London, W4.
(01-994 8902 in office hours)
C.I.T. on 01-930 6722.

CRETE CORFU THE ALGARVE

01-570 0090 MARTYN HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

£129 RTN INCL. CRETE

Every Sunday from Gatwick
Mid April-October
Tel: 01-828 7682
AIRLINK
9 Wilton Rd, London SW1V 1LL
ABTA

LOW COST FLIGHTS

NAIROBI, J'BURG, HARARE, LUSAKA, DAR, W. AFRICA, CAIRO, ADDIS, INDIA-PAK, SEY, MAU, MID EAST, FAR EAST, TOKYO, CANADA, SOUTH AMERICA, USA & AUSTRALIA.
AFRO-ASIAN TRAVEL LTD., Suite 233, The Linen Hall, 162/168 Regent St, London W1
01-437 8255/6/7/8.
Late bookings welcome. AMEX/VISA/Diners accepted.

AROUND THE WORLD

ASIA/USA from £599
via AUSTRALIA/N.Z. from £759
Stopovers available with accommodation.
NEW YORK from o/w £102, rtn £204
SYDNEY from o/w £325, rtn £519
AUCKLAND from o/w £399, rtn £679
TASMAN TRAVEL
01-261 0888
ABTA

S W FRANCE

FIELDS OF SUNFLOWERS AND VINES ... MILES OF HONEY-COLOURED SANDS ... SAVOUR THE DELIGHTS OF THE GENTLE, UNSPOILED CHARENTES

Wide variety of apartments, villas, gites, chateaux. For new brochure please phone (040924) 662, or write to

AU SOLEIL HOLIDAYS LTD
Kismeldon, West Putford, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 7XH.

SUN SOAKED HOLIDAYS

Greek Islands, Algarve, France, Italy, Sicily, Cyprus, Spain and the Balearics – villa, apartment, hotel, taverna and camping holidays at Direct-to-you top value prices. Ask for brochure NOW: Only from

Ventura Holidays
279 South Road, Sheffield S6 3TA
Tel. 01-251 5456 or 01-251 3720
Tel. (0742) 331100 or 342391
ATOL 1170

CORFU

Charming converted farmhouse. Secluded hill village, nr Kassiopi, superb views, 10 mins several beaches by car, slps 6, mod cons, maid. From £75 p.w.

0787-72744

RAMATUELLE. – Near St Tropez. Attractive house, accom 8, with verandahs, pool, large garden, in vineyards. 3km from beaches, serviced. £1000 p.w. July/August 01-937 2706.

DENMARK.– Summer cottage to let, min 2 week period. Own beach. Slps 10. 38m Copenhagen. £140pw. 01-977 3126

JUAN LES PINS small apartment sleeps 2, 4, 6 mins walk beach, south facing balcony, private road. Tel 0798 81856.

LOW FARES WORLDWIDE. – USA, S America, Mid and Far East, S Africa. Trayvale, 48 Margaret Street, W1. 01-580 2928 (Visa accepted).

HAWAIIAN TRAVEL CENTRE consult the specialists. 01-486 9176 in association with The Travel Company. ABTA.

WINTER SPORTS

SKI

Reduced to £199 pp 1wk, £299 2 wks. Air/chalet inclusive of 3 meals a day. Luxury staffed chalet for drivers from £166 pp inclusive of Dover/Calais return crossing

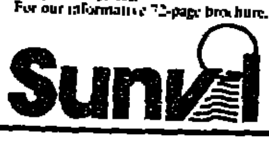
Ring Jeannie Dalzell on (0223) 311113

SKIBEACH VILLAS
8(T) Market Passage, Cambridge CB2 3QR
Brochure request line (0223) 350777 (24 hrs)
ABTA 1414X ATOL 381B

GREECE, CYPRUS, PORTUGAL AND ITALY (inc SICILY)

Our specialist programme is interesting and imaginative. Villas, hotels, fly drives, even diving holidays! And the maximum possible flexibility at the most competitive prices.

For our informative 72-page brochure, please write or phone:



01-568 4499
Sunvil Travel (T), Upper Sq. Isleworth, Middx. TW7 7BJ
ABTA IATA AITO ATOL 808

Sea~3V

Luxurious Mediterranean Holidays for the Connoisseur!!

Turkey Sardinia Corsica

All types of accommodation available including our own Watersports Club in Turkey, right on the waters edge, with free use of all watersports facilities. Luxurious catered villas on the sophisticated Costa Smeralda in Sardinia and superb self catering apartments and villas in Northern Corsica.

Phone now for our exclusive Summer 1984 brochure on 01 938 1481/2 (Brochure 24 hrs)
Sea 3V, 15 Thackeray St., London W8.
ATOL 1534

FLY CONCORDE SUPERSONIC
CAIRO & THE PYRAMIDS, 10th March 1984, £295.
(Agent for ATOL 187)
85 minute flight £295 Sunday 25th March (Mothers Day)
Ticket includes champagne, refreshments, running commentary, supersonic certificate view of flight deck.
RFC Concorde flights, 'Redroofs', Capel, Dorking. Tel: (0306) 711114.

WINTER SPORTS

SKI

We're up to our bumbags in snow and the forecast is more. Come March and the spring sun: the skiing will be pure magic! And we've got availability in the French Alps with courier, ski guide, and coach or air travel.

Phone for brochure or video
SKI SUNMED
17-27 Garratt Lane
Wandsworth SW18 4AE
Tel 01-871 0977 (24 hours) ABTA

BLADON LINES SKI BARGAINS

01-785 2200
309 Brompton Rd, London SW3 2DY
ABTA ATOL 1232

INSTANT SKI BARGAINS

Chalets, apartments and hotels in the top resorts by air, sleeper coach, self-drive or travelling independently. For instant bookings call.

SKI WEST
0373 864811

LA PLAGNE, French Alps. Ideal for Winter and Summer Skiing. The La Plagne ski complex comprises 10 interconnected ski stations-185 km. downhill skiing, assisted by 86 ski lifts. Snow guaranteed until April 7. Vacancies in self-catering apartments with ski pass 'forfaits', March 24–31 Special Bargain Offer. Summer skiing at 3250m. (6 lifts operating). Also Tennis, Swimming and many other activities. Contact: ERNA LOW, La Plagne Reservations, Dept. T, 9 Reece Mews, London SW7 3HE. Tel: 01-584 2841.

VERBIER save £40 to £60 special bargain fortnight due to cancellation in superbly catered chalet. 18/2 to 3/3 sleeps 9. All inclusive £175 p.w. or £280 per fortnight. Tel. Sean 01-352 7531 or 01-228 1348.

GENEVA SKI FLIGHTS with coach transfers to most top resorts from £79 return, from Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester & Edinburgh. Ski West 0373 864811.

SKI FLIGHTS – Gatwick to Geneva & Grenoble from just £49 return, plus taxes. Ski Summed. Tel. 01-351 3166. ABTA. ATOL 1765.

MEGEVE AND LA CLUSAZ. Super snow conditions. Still some March weeks free. V.F.B. SKI 0242 35515 (24 hrs).

HAUTE NENDAZ (Verbier lifts) flat, slps 4/5, avail Feb 25, March 3, 10 & Easter. 0223 276531.

ST ANTON CHALET PARTY. 4 places, avail in March, 678 6177 or 937 1118.

VERBIER last minute availability in luxury apartment. £200 p.w. Tel. 01-373 3758 S.L.A.

HOTELS-OVERSEAS

CHAMPERY VALAIS SWITZERLAND

190 skilifts. 720 km ski-pistes. Transfer from Geneva airport. Ski-Week (7 days) from SF 480 to SF 590 plus 2 days free in summer, (room, half-board, ski-lift, entry to swimming pool and skating rink).

HOTEL DE CHAMPERY
Tel: 01041.25/79 10 71.

SPORT AND RECREATION

FOR SALE

MESSAGE ON A BOTTLE

FOR YOUR VALENTINE HAVE A MESSAGE ENGRAVED IN GOLD LEAF ON A BOTTLE OF YOUR CHOICE IN THE HARRODS WINE DEPT.

SHORT LETS

WANTED

BRILLIANT YOUNG CELLIST urgently requires a first class instrument and seeks a benevolent patron. Box 2285H The Times.

URGENTLY WANTED Large wardrobes, tables, chairs, glass cabinets, desks and all pre-1920 furniture. 01-228 4478 anytime.

DENTAL GOLD wanted, £150 oz. cash by return. – Hove Metals, 113 Dyke Rd, Seven Dials, Brighton 0273 734651/724401.

ANTIQUE GARDEN STATUARY wanted urgently. Crowther of Syon Lodge. 01-560 7978.

BOX REQUIRED for Royal Ascot, 4 days or less. Tel Miss Hodges 01-542 9011.

SERVICES

ANCESTRY TRACERS of experience will research your family history economically and efficiently.–Send details for free estimates to Achievements, Northgate, Canterbury CT1 1BA, or tel (0227) 62618

FRIENDSHIP LOVE or MARRIAGE. Dateline – all ages, areas. Dateline, Dept (TIM), 25 Abingdon Road, London, W.8. 01-938 1011.

CVs Professionally compiled and presented £1 x age. Details: 01-351 1869 (office hours). Calibre CV's.

ANIMALS AND BIRDS

PEKINGESE Alderbourne line, lovely puppies seek appreciative homes. Tel: Ascot 23663

FOR SALE

RESISTA CARPETS
SPECIAL OFFERS
Plain Velvet pile foambacked 4m wide £3.35 sq yd
Heavy Duty Wool Mix Berber Hessian Backed 4m wide £5.75 sq yd
584 Fulham Rd., Parsons Green, SW6 736 7551
182 Upper Richmond Rd West, SW14 876 2089
207 Haverstock Hill, NW3 794 0139

RENTALS

CHELSEA, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, Belgravia, Pimlico, Westminster. Luxury houses & flats, available for long or short lets. Please ring for current list. Cootes, 69 Buckingham Palace Rd, SW1. 828 8251.

SUPERIOR FLATS & HOUSES available and required for diplomats/executives: long or short lets in all areas. Lipfriend & Co, 48 Albermarle St, London W1. 499 5334.

£250 P.W. KENSINGTON. Superb immac flat, 4 bedrms, recep, k & 2b. Modern & furn to a very high standard. Serviced, T.V., porter. Aylesford & Co. 351-2383.

KENSINGTON COURT Opp park. Immac, lux flat, 2 bdrm., bath, lge recep, kit/diner, c/h, tv, fully furn. £150 p.w. to careful tenants. 937 2423.

KENSINGTON S.W.5 Luxury comfortable large 1 bed first floor flat, C.H. and all mod cons. £160 pw, for 6 months let. Shorter or longer let by negotiations. Tel 452 7725.

LUXURY FLATS Short/long lets. Enhanced Properties 01-629 0501.

PRINCE OF WALES DRIVE, Battersea. Luxury 2 bedroom flat, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, beautifully appointed with antique furniture. CH. CHW. Available 1 year +. £620 pcm. Ring Homes & Company 01-891 4313.

KINGSTON GATE Richmond Park, spacious elegant flat, 2 floors, 3 beds, lounge, study, superb kitchen. £125 pw. Daytime 549 1682 or Peter Wilson at 994 6477. Evenings 549 0367 or 549 1682.

CADOGAN LANE, Belgravia. Newly decorated mews house, furnished or unfurnished. 3 bed., 1½ bath., recep. + kit., C.H., keys to gdn. + tennis courts. Garage avail. £250 p.w. 351 6471.

FLAT SHARING

SOUTH KENSINGTON 1 single room in new conversion for non-smoking female 25 plus. Ideal for Mon-Fri. share with owner. £40 pw. Ring 0386 73308 (eves).

SE5 O/R in luxury flat near station. 16 mins London Bridge. £176 pcm incl. 248 6422 ext 390 days. 860 0728 eves.

AUTHOR NEEDS QUIET room, storage, fairly central. Write Bowlby, Gothic Lodge, 6 Woodhayes Road, SW19.

CAMDEN 4th female to share garden mews house. O/rm, must be fun. £35 p.w. excl. Tel. 267 7629 after 12.00 noon

MARYLEBONE. Prof gent to share lux flat, own large dble room, elegantly decorated, ch, chw. £39 pw. Long let only. refs essential. 402 5322.

N1. 2nd person, spacious maisonette. o/r non-smoker, £180 pm excl 226 1394.

FLATMATES. 313 Brompton Rd selective sharing. Please Tel for appointment. 589 5491.

2 PEOPLE share largish room, approx £100 p.m. West Hampstead. 435 6323.

HAMPSTEAD. Room to let. £140 p.c.m. exclusive. Suit professional F 794 3784 after 18.30.

OWN LARGE ROOM in lovely Georgian family house in Dulwich area. £35 incl. 01 693 1226.

CROUCH END. Prof M. o/r. comfortable flat, CH, gdn, £130 pcm excl. 01 341 4709 eves.

FULHAM. M/F. own dble bedrm in S/c ground fl flat and gdn. £45 pw excl. 731 6719 after 6pm.

W6. Own room, share with 2, £100 p.m. excl. 01-741 4476 day and eves.

ST JOHNS VICARAGE, East Dulwich. O/R, CH, £16.50 pw. 639 3807.

N16. Prof fem, sh, s/c flat, all mod cons. £25 pw. Tel 249 6047.

APPOINTMENTS

OFFICE JUNIOR, professional office, City, varied work. O level plus 30 wpm minimum: aged 17/19, could be first job. – Henley Centre for ...

MEDIA APPOINTMENTS

SUPER SECRETARIES

TEMPTING TIMES

TEMPS
URGENTLY REQUIRED NOW!
Ring Stella Fisher Bureau
110 The Strand, London WC1.
Tel: 01-836 6644

TRUSTEE ACTS

EDUCATIONAL

1984 – YOUR CRUCIAL YEAR?

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES IN AUSTRIA

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS REQUIRED

THE TIMES

To advertise in

The Times or The Sunday Times

please telephone

01-837 3311 or 3333

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Alternatively you may write to:

Times Newspapers Ltd,
Classified Dept,
FREEPOST,
London, WC1 8BR



You may now use your Access or Visa Card when placing your advertising

TELEVISION: Sunday's Variations

(from facing page)

BBC 1 Wales: 3.25-5.25pm Sports Line-up (followed by News Headlines). Includes Rugby Union (London Welsh v Brigend). Winter Olympics. 10.05-10.45 The Chris Stuart Cha-Cha Chat Show. 10.45-11.25 Everyman: 'Eathquest' (as BBC 1 10.50pm) 11.25-12.10am Olympic Grandstand (as BBC 1 10.50pm) 12.10 News of Wales headlines. Scotland: 1.25-1.50pm Can Seo. Gaelic for beginners (16). 6.40-7.15 Glory Be 10.50-11.30 Everyman: 'Warlords and Widows' – The Maronites of Lebanon 11.55 Scottish news summary. Northern Ireland: 1.00-1.25pm Farm View 11.55 Northern Ireland news headlines.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.56-2.00 Starting Point 2.30 Big Match Live 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galactica 12.15am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.00 Farming '84. 11.30-12.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Here and Now. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galactica. 11.45 England Their England. 12.15am Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzell. 9.35-10.00 My Life. 11.00 Collectors' Corner. 11.25 Aap Kaa Hak. 11.30-12.00 This is Your Right. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Metal Mickey. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galactica. 11.45 That's Hollywood. 12.20am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: Starts 9.30am-10.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 11.30-12.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.00pm At Ease. 1.25 Weather. 1.30-2.00 Farming Diary. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Return of the Saint. 11.45 Harvest Jazz. 12.20 Pastoral Problems, Closedown.

TSW As London except: Starts 9.30-10.00am Getting on. 11.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.25 Look and See. 11.30-12.00 South West Week. 1.00pm Gardens For All. 1.30-2.00 Farming News. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galactica. 11.45 Comedy Tonight. 12.21am Closedown.

ULSTER 11.00am Getting on. 11.30-12.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Bygones. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30 Smurfs. 6.00-6.30 History of the Car. 11.45 Sports Results. 11.50 News. Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: Starts 9.30am Sesame Street. 10.30-11.00 Sport Billy. 11.30-12.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Film: Gigi. 4.30 Scotsport. 5.30 Bullseye. 6.00-6.30 Jack Holburn. 11.35 Reflections. 11.40 World of James Michener. 12.30am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 9.25 Border Diary. 9.30-10.00 Land of Birds. 11.30 Collectors' Corner. 11.55-12.00 Border Diary. 1.00 Venture. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.00-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest. 11.45 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 11.00 Collectors' Corner. 11.30-12.00 Farming Diary. 1.00pm-2.00 Bracken. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 We'll Meet Again. 7.45-9.45 Our Man Flint (James Coburn). 11.45 Late Night Drama. 12.15am Five Minutes. Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am Morning Glory. 9.30-10.00 Getting On. 11.00 Lookaround. 11.05 Stan and Ollie. 11.30-12.00 Collector's Corner. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30-4.30 Big Match. 5.32-6.30 Little House on the Prairie. 11.45 Amazing Years of Cinema. 12.15am Karate Spirit. 12.30 Susie Beddows. Closedown.

HTV As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. 9.35-10.00 Falcon Island. 11.30-12.00 Collectors' Corner. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 West Country Farming. 2.30-4.30 Big Match Live. 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest. 11.45 Roots of Rock 'n' Roll. 12.40am Closedown.
HTV WALES: No variation.

SCOTTISH As London except: 9.25am Cartoon 9.30 Collector's Corner 10.00-11.00 Sesame Street 11.30-12.00 I'm Young But Special 1.00pm University Challenge 1.30 Farming Outlook 2.00 Sunday Service 2.30 Children of ... Samoa 2.45 Glen Michael Cavalcade 3.30 Jack Holborn 4.00 Bullseye 4.30 Scotsport 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest 11.45 Late Call 11.50 Shelley 12.20 am Closedown.

S4C Starts 1.55pm Ffermwyr. 2.05 Twenty Twenty Vision. 2.30 Eastern Eye. 3.25 City Priest. 3.50 Diverse Reports. 4.20 Wish You Were Here. 4.50 Skateway. 5.15 A Touch of Culture. 6.15 Cricket. 7.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 7.20 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Hafod Henri. 8.00 Rhaglen Hywel Gwynfryn. 8.50 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol. 9.20 World at War. 10.15 Film: Kiss of Death (Victor Mature). 12.00 Seven Days. 12.25am Closedown.

SATURDAY WORLD SERVICE

SUNDAY WORLD SERVICE

هكذا من الأصل

Saturday

Television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Davalle

Sunday

Saturday

BBC 1

6.45 Open University (until 8.25): 8.35 Godzilla: the story of the Energy Beast (r); 9.00 Saturday SuperStore: *includes special features from the Kennedy Space Centre*, and from Sarajevo, venue of the Winter Olympic Games. Back in the studio: Kool and the Gang, and Spandau Ballet; 12.23 Weather.

12.25 Grandstand. The line-up is: 12.30 Winter Olympics. Main events today – Ladies' Downhill, Two-Man Bobsleigh *and the Biathlon (more at 4.15)*; 1.00 Football Focus; 1.25 Newbury Racing: the 1.30 race; 1.40 Cricket: Third Test: second day's play; 1.55 Newbury Racing: the 2.00 race; 2.10 Bowls: Embassy World Indoor Championships. From Coatbridge; 2.35 Newbury Racing (Schweppes Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle Race).

2.50 Boxing: George Feeney v Paul Chance (Lightweight Championship of GB, fought last night); 3.05 Newbury Racing: the 3.15 Compton Steeplechase; 3.20 Rugby Preview.

3.30 Rugby League: Kent Invicta v Castleford – the State Express Challenge Cup; 3.50 Half-times; 3.55 Rugby League (resumed); 4.15 Winter Olympics: back to Sarajevo; 4.40 Final Scores.

5.05 News; 5.15 Sports round-up.

5.20 The Rod and Emu Show: Special guests tonight – Barron Knights, Stutz Bear Cats, and Second Image.

5.55 Jim'll Fix It: The Princess of Wales's dress designers, the Emanuels, make a dress specially for Anne Louise Webb, from Kingsley, Cheshire.

6.30 Film: The Gumball Rally (1976). Comedy, with thrills, about an illegal coast-to-coast car rally. Starring Michael Sarrazin and Norman Burton. Directed by Chuck Bail.

8.15 The Les Dawson Show: with special guest Stephanie Lawrence.

8.45 News: and sports round-up.

9.00 The Odd Job Man: Episode 1 of N. J. Crisp's three-part thriller, starring Jon Finch as a former member of the SAS who takes on an SAS-style mission of his own. Tonight: danger, in the shape of a face from the past. With Ralph Bates and Polly Hemingway.

9.50 Wogan: with Lynn Redgrave over from the United States for her BBC TV situation comedy debut in The Fainthearted Feminist; Welsh comedian/troubadour Max Boyce, and American choreographer/director Bob Fosse.

10.40 Match of the Day Special: Highlights from First and Second Division matches played today. And Ice Hockey coverage from the Winter Olympic Games.

12.00 Late Night Horror: Legend of the Werewolf (1974). David Rimtoul plays a half-man, half-wolf, and Peter Cushing is the police pathologist who goes down into the Paris sewers with silver bullets in his pistol. With Ron Moody. Directed by Freddie Francis. Ends at 1.30am.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Henry Kelly and Toni Arthur. Pick of the Week (6.30), news at 7.00 and 8.00; sport (7.10). Celebrity guest (7.25), Rustie Lee's cookery feature (7.40).

8.40 Data Run: includes news of the British Phonographic Awards for Rock and Pop. *Also, a Valentine song from* Boy George.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT information: what's on locally; 9.30 Sesame Street: learning about life, with The Muppets; 10.30 The Saturday Show: with Will Powers, Luna, Michael Dolenz. Cartoons, and assorted features aimed fairly and squarely at the young.

12.15 World of Sport. The line-up is: 12.20 Athletics: Los Angeles Times, Indoor Games; 12.35 Boxing (Sugar Ray Leonard feature); 12.45 News from ITN; 12.50 On the Ball: includes an appetite-whetter for tomorrow's Luton v Manchester United match; 1.20 Racing: *Curry v Starling* for the WBA Welterweight Championship; 1.40 Racing from Ayr: the 1.45 race; 1.55 Pool: the B & I Line World Masters, from The Forum, Kentish Town, London.

2.10 Racing: the 2.15 from Ayr; 2.25 Pool: Further coverage of the B & I Masters; 2.45 Racing from Ayr: the 2.50 race; 3.00 Pool (resumed); 3.40 Greyhounds (Guys and Dolls final); 3.45 Half-time.

4.00 Wrestling: three bouts from Worcester – heavyweight, mid-heavyweight, and catchweight; 4.45 Results. Including Classified Pools check.

5.00 News from ITN.

5.05 Fraggle Rock: First cousins of the Muppets in another tale.

5.35 The Fall Guy: Villains, after some hidden drugs, kidnap a friend of Colt's and plan to use her as a bargaining counter.

6.30 Child's Play: Nerys Hughes and Martin Jarvis, and Val Rigby and Roger Dennis, try to guess some words defined by children.

7.00 3-2-1: Quiz game with a high comedy content. Tonight's edition has a nightclub atmosphere. Guests include Ray Alan and Lord Charles, Maggie Moone and the Cambridge Buskers.

8.00 T J Hooker: Crime thriller about a motorcycle gang who are now dealers in illegal arms. With William Shatner.

9.00 News from ITN.

9.15 Film: Farewell, My Lovely (1975) Robert Mitchum as Raymond Chandler's private eye Philip Marlowe, in pursuit of a former convict's girlfriend. With Charlotte Rampling, John Ireland and Sylvester Stallone (before he became famous). Directed by Dick Richards.

11.00 London news headlines. Followed by: Rock Concert: Chaka Khan-Live. From the Roxy, in Los Angeles.

12.00 Best of Saturday Night Live. The American TV comedy show. Tonight's guest stars are Madeline Kahn and Carly Simon. Followed by Night Thoughts from Canon Peter Challen, senior chaplain of the South London Industrial Mission.

Derek Jacobi and Josette Simon in the documentary A Touch of Culture (Channel 4, 8.30pm)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University.

3.10 Film: College (1927*): Buster Keaton silent comedy. The great comedian does all his own spectacular stunts as the undergraduate who pushes himself to the limit (and beyond) as he tries to impress *his girlfriend with his physical* prowess. With Florence Turner and Anne Cornwall. Director: James W. Horne.

4.15 Play Away: Fun and musical *entertainment.*

4.40 The Sky at Night: Professor Alec Boksenberg, Director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, is interviewed by Patrick Moore (r).

5.00 Film: Robinson Crusoe (1952): Definitely different screen version of the Defoe classic, with the intelligent eye of its director, Luis Buñel, clearly at work behind every shot. Starring Dan O'Herlihy as Crusoe and James Fernandez as Man Friday (see 8.15 entry).

6.25 Glaciers: How ice sheets amended the shape of the Earth's surface.

6.50 Sight and Sound in Concert: with Bob Geldorf and the Boomtown Rats.

7.30 News: and sports round-up.

7.45 Cricket: Second day's play in the Third Test.

8.15 The Life and Times of Don *Luis Buñel: An "Arena"* special. A full-scale biography of the great Spanish film director. With clips from many of his films, and interviews with friends and colleagues like Fernando Rey, Jeanne Moreau, Catherine Deneuve.

9.50 C. P. Snow's Strangers and Brothers: Fifth episode of Julian Bond's TV version of Snow's sequence of novels. Tonight – the battle to choose a successor to the dying Master of Lewis Eliot's college at Cambridge (r).

10.45 The Weather in the Streets Preview: trailer for tomorrow night's BBC2 film; 10.50 News.

10.55 World Bowls: Second semi-final of the Embassy World Indoor Championship.

11.40 Film: The First Polka (1979) Bavarian television film, with English sub-titles, based on the Horst Bienek novel, and set in a German town close to the Polish border on the eve of the Second World War. With Maria Schell as the mother whose daughter is to be married on Thursday, August 31, 1939. Directed by Klaus Emmerich. Ends at 1.25am.

CHANNEL 4

1.05 Make it Pay: Turn your hand to making jewelry as a hobby, and earn some extra cash.

2.35 Film: Hold that Ghost (1941*): Abbott and Costello inherit a creepy-looking mansion from a mobster. The fun is predictable, but there are good interludes from the Andrew Sisters

4.10 Ants in the Pantry: Three Stooges comedy, with the trio as pest exterminators.

4.35 Skateaway: Robin Cousins teaches the beginners how to spin on one foot and they combine all the steps they have learned during the past six weeks into a short free skating programme.

5.00 Brookside: two episodes are shown again (r).

6.00 No Problem!: Told that their parents intend paying them a surprise visit, the free-wheeling youngsters make frantic efforts to put their house in order.

6.30 The Other Side of the Tracks: Pop music magazine. With Pat Benatar, a big success in the US but slow to catch on in Britain.

7.30 News headlines. Followed by:– Union World: Profile of Peter Heathfield who becomes general secretary of the National Union of *Mineworkers* on March 1.

8.00 Twenty Twenty Visions: Debate on Northern Ireland. Robert Kee chairs a discussion involving MPs Mr Harold McCusker (Official Unionist), Michael Mates (Conservative), John Hume (SDLP) and Clare Short (Labour).

8.30 A Touch of Culture: What happened last year when the Royal Shakespeare Company (Derek Jacobi, Jenny Agutter and the rest) went up to Newcastle-upon-Tyne in search of a new audience "beyond the barriers of class, money and culture".

9.35 The Avengers: Steed and Tara in action again (r).

10.35 The Comic Strip Presents: Slags.m Good v Evil in a slightly futuristic setting.

11.15 Film: Kiss of Death (1947*): Gangster thriller with Victor Mature on the revenge trail after crooks threaten his children. Remembered, chiefly, for Richard Widmark's auspicious debut as the sadistic killer. With Brian Donlevy and Coleen Gray. Director: Henry Hathaway. Ends at 1.05.

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News.
7.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm.
8.00 News. 8.10 Today's Papers.
8.15 Sport on 4.
8.48 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.05 Breakaway.
9.50 News Stand.
10.05 The Week in Westminster.
10.30 Daily service†.
10.45 Pick of the Week.†
11.35 From our own correspondent.
12.00 News; Money Box.
12.27 The News Quiz. News of the last seven days examined by some of the people who wrote it.
1.00 News.
1.10 Any Questions? from New Milton, Hampshire. With Ken Livingstone, Lady Gardner, Graham Dowson, and Rowanne Pasco. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.05 Thirty-minute Theatre. The *Champion by Gwyn Clark.* Drama, about a women's page *interviewer who goes to the home* of a former prizefighter to interview his wife.
2.35 Medicine Now.
3.05 Wildlife.
3.30 Home-ing In.
4.00 News: International Assignment.
4.30 Does he take sugar?
5.00 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.
5.25 Week ending. Satirical review of the week's news. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.†
6.00 News; Sports Round-Up.
6.25 Desert Island Discs†
7.05 Stop the week with Robert Robinson†
7.45 *Baker's Dozen.*
8.30 Saturday-night Theatre. 'Sea Changes' by Olwen Wymark. With Anne Bell and Maureen O'Brien. The story of a middle-aged divorcee who has sent to California for her oldest friend, from schooldays. Now, she *contemplates* sending her back home, to escape the attentions of *the Nelsoms*, who are the horribly well-meaning tenants.
10.00 News.
10.15 You the Jury. Tonight's motion: In Britain, the rule of law must be absolute. With Lord Denning and Jack Dromey (TGWU).
11.00 Lighten our Darkness.
11.15 Animal Language. A 13-part series on sound communication in animals, narrated by David Attenborough (7) Song Learning.
11.45 A Sideways Look At. . . by Anthony Smith.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Shipping Forecast. 12.23-12.28 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.

Radio 3

7.25 Cricket: The Third Test.
8.05 Aubade: Handel's (trasc Elgar) overture in D minor; Toy's Waltz The Huanted Ballroom; Nielsen's Wind Quinet; and Liszt's (orch Tchaikovsky) Concerto in the Hungarian Style (Katsamris and the Philadelphia Orch).†9.00 News.
9.05 Record Review: Michael Kennedy compares recordings of Elgar's Cello Concerto.†
10.15 Stereo Release: Hummel's Violin Sonata in D, Op 50 (Holmes/Burnett), Krommer's Octet-Partita in E flat, Op 79, Mozart (completed Abbe Stadler) Sonata movement in B flat, K 372 (Shumsky/Balsam), and Haydn's String Quartet in E flat, Op 71, No 3.†
11.30 Mozassrt and Bruckner: BBC Phil play Mozart's overture The Magic Flute; and Bruckner's Symph No 4.†1.00 News.
1.05 Liszt: Hamish Milne (piano) plays the Années de pelerinage: deuxième année.
2.00 George Philipp Telemann: the works include the Festliche Suite in A major for strings and continua.†
3.40 Rachmaninov: Symphonic Dances (Brown/Johns at the two pianos).†
4.15 Early Britten: The Canadian Carnival and Four French Songs. Jill Gomez with City of Birmingham SO. And Sinfonietta, Op 1 (English Chamber Orch).†
5.00 Jazz Record Requests: with Peter Clayton.†
5.45 Critics Forum.
6.35 The Iberian Organ: Recital by James Dalton in the Chapel of Coimbra University, Portugal.†
7.15 The Bucket Rider: Kenneth Cranham reads the Kafka story.
7.25 Lully and Bach: Lully's suite Armide, and Bach's Suite No 2 in B minor.
8.00 Gianni Schicchi: Puccini's one-act opera (a third of the *Trittico*), sung in Italian, with the Symph Orch of Italian Radio Rome. Claudio Desderi sings the title role.†
9.00 Buddy Rich and his Orchestra: A performance at Lewisham Concert Hall, Catford, last April.†
9.45 The Talking Doll. Kenneth Cranham reads Jack Trevor Story's story.
10.05 Buddy Rich concert. Part two.†
11.15 News until 11.18. VHF only – Open University: 7.15-7.55am.

Radio 2

News on the hour until 1.00pm and then from 6.00 (except 8.00pm and 9.00). Major bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW).
4.00am George Ferguson† incl. 4.02, 5.02 Cricket. 6.00 Sheila Tracy† incl. 6.03 Cricket. 7.50 Racing Bulletin. 8.05 David Jacobs.† 10.00 Sounds of the 60s† with Keith Fordyce. 11.00 Album Time† with Peter Clayton, incl. 11.02 Sports Desk. 1.08 Berni Clifton's Comedy Shop. 1.30 Sport on 2: includes: Cricket (Third Test); Racing from Newbury (2.00 The Game Spirit Chase and 2.40 The Schweppes Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle); Winter Olympics (Women's Downhill); Rugby League (Kent Invicta v Castleford). 6.00 Folk on 2 with Jim Lloyd. 7.00 Jazz Score. 7.30 An English Evening. A gala concert direct from the Bletchley Leisure Centre.† 8.10-8.30 Interval. 9.30 Big Band Special† with the BBC Big Band, incl. 10.02 Sports Desk. 10.05 Saturday Rendezvous† with Len Jackson. 11.00 Ken Bruce† with his selection of music, incl. 11.02 Cricket. 12.05 Cricket. 1.00am Jean Challis presents Nightride† incl. 1.02, 2.02 Cricket. 3.00-4.00 Wally Whyton† with Country Greats in Concert, incl. 3.02 Cricket.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour until 12.30pm, then 2.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW).
6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Saturday Show. 10.00 Dave Lee Travis. 1.00 Hitsville USA. The story of Motown (Part 4).† 2.00 Paul Gambaccini.† 4.00 Saturday Live with Andy Batten-Foster and Muriel Gray. 6.20 In Concert featuring Jo Boxers.† 6.50 Sight and Sound in Concert *featuring* The Boomtown Rats from the Gold Diggers, Chippenham. (A simultaneous broadcast with BBC 2).† 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 Gary Davies. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 1.00pm With Radio 1. 7.30-4.00am With Radio 2.

World Service, facing page

Sunday

BBC 1

6.20 Open University (until 8.50): 9.00 Postman Pat: he goes sledging (r); 9.15 Sunday Worship: from St Joseph's *Chapel, Upholland Northern* Institute, Lancashire; 10.00 Asian Magazine: a morning with the singer Varni Jairam; 10.30 Thinking in Action: action, planning, implementation (r); 10.40 Maths Help: O-level maths (r); 10.55 Greek-Language and People: getting around(r); 11.20 Inside YTS: First of five films; *11.45 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery Course:* Tandoori chicken.

12.10 See Hear! for those with hearing difficulties; 12.35 Making the Most of the Micro; 1.00 Farming; 1.25 Talking Stock: Being 50-plus in the 1980s (r);1.50 News headlines.

1.55 Film: This Happy Feeling (*1958*): Romantic comedy, with Debbie Reynolds as the young innocent who restores the lost confidence of a Broadway actor (Curt Jurgens). Director: Blake Edwards.

3.25 Olympic Grandstand: From Sarajevo. The Ice Dance Championships (Torvill and Dean continue their bid for gold). Other events include the ski-jumping (see also 10.05pm entry).

4.55 Lifeboat: Final film in this series about the Humber Likeboat. Tonight: holiday-makers in danger.

5.25 Goodbye Mr Chips: Episode three. There has been a domestic clash over school meals. Roy Marsden plays Chips; 5.55 News: with Jan Leeming.

6.05 Holiday: What Alaska and Berlin have to offer. And a farm holiday near Caernarfron, *in north Wales.*

6.40 Songs of Praise: from St Mary's, Dalton-in-Furness.

7.15 One by One: Anger over a *newspaper* report about the death of an elephant. With Rob Heyland as the zoo vet.

8.05 Mastermind: from the RAF Museum, Hendon. The specialized subjects are: *British and US military aircraft;* George Orwell's novels; the reign of James 1; and the works of Beethoven. Tonight's contestants: a school teacher, *a probation officer, an* agricultural tractor driver, and an archaeologist.

8.35 Ever Decreasing Circles: Comedy series with Richard Briers. *The new arrival (Peter* Egan) is seen leaving his house, under police escort; 9.05 News.

9.20 Crufts: The announcement of *the Best in Show. Dennis Mc* Carthy and Les Crawley on the climax at Earls Court.

10.05 Olympic Grandstand: the Pairs Figure Skating. *Commentary: Alan Weeks and* Robin Cousins.

10.50 Everyman: Earthquest. Glastonbury is the centre of pagan and "New Age" *philosophies in Britain. The* programme asks: are the people who practise these beliefs anything more than harmless eccentrics?

11.30 *Phil Silvers: Another Sergeant* Bilko army comedy. Tonight: Bilko's Godson" (r).

11.55 Weather for Monday.

TV-am

7.25 Good Morning Britain: with David Frost, who introduces Mother Frances Dominica, of Helen House, Oxford.

7.30 Rub-a-Dub-Tub: for the very young. With toy maker Rodney Peppé.

8.30 Good Morning Britain: news 8.30; sport 8.35; Sunday *papers review 8.40; Behind* the News, at 8.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT information: what's on in the area; 9.30 Collectors' Corner: Kitchenware museums (r); 10.00 Morning Worship: from St Mary's RC Church, Norton-le-Moors, Stoke-on-Trent; 11.00 Getting On: Family care for the elderly. With Gillian Reynolds (r); 11.30 A Better Read: The pleasure in books, with Gillian Reynolds. Plus authors John Brunner and Douglas Hill.

12.00 Weekend World: Now that Andropov is dead, the question that exercises Brian *Walden's mind is: What next* for Russia – and the world?

1.00 Police 5: Shaw Taylor asks for out help; 1.15 Cartoon Time. 1.15 The Smurfs: It is Valentine's Day.

2.00 London news. Followed by:– Encounter: Visions of a Media Man. Former journalist Tom Davies bites the Fleet Street hand that once fed him.

2.30 The Big Match – Live. Luton versus Manchester United. Commentary by Brian Moore and Ian St John.

4.30 Jack Holborn: Period adventure serial, based on Leon Garfield's book. Starring Patrick Bach as the lad fallen among pirates.

5.00 Bullseye: Darts and general knowledge.

5.30 Sunday Sunday: with Gloria Hunniford and show business guests; Michael Caine, Victoria Wood, Kenneth Williams, Patrick Mower and Matt Bianco. 6.30 News from ITN; 6.40 Appeal: Isla St Clair asks us to support Children's Community Holidays.

6.45 Highway: Harry Secombe, in Jarrow, meets Steve Cram and other well-known local folk.

7.15 Family Fortunes: the Jupps from Leeds versus the Allans from Edinburgh.

7.45 Film: Telefon (1977). Thriller starring Charles Bronson and Lee Remick. All about a Soviet agent who is sent to stop a defector from getting hypnotized spies to commit sabotage throughout the US. Directed by Don Siegel; 9.45 News from ITN.

10.00 Love and Marriage: A Matter of Will. By George Pensotti. With Brenda Bruce and Hugh Lloyd. A story of winter's love in an old people's home. With Noel Dyson.

11.00 The Jimmy Young Television Programme: Spotlight on the Press, with newspapermen and a police spokesman.

11.45 London news headlines. Followed by – The Protectors: Robert Vaughn and Nyree Dawn Porter are caught up in a strange smuggling racket. Followed by the Night Thoughts of Canon Peter Challen.

Michael York and Lisa Eichhorn in a film of Rosamond Lehmann's The Weather in the Streets (BBC 2, 9.30pm)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 1.55 when there are pages from Ceefax).

2.15 Rugby Special: A top fixture in the Schweppes Scottish Leagues (Division 1). Plus general rugby round-up.

3.05 Horizon: Better Mind the Computer. Startling predictions by *scientists* (r).

3.55 Quintet: The Lindsay String Quartet play Schubert's String Quintet in C, D 956. With Douglas Cummings, cellist.

4.55 Bowls: *The final of the* Embassy World Indoor Championship, from Coatbridge (highlights tonight at 11.40).

6.00 News Review: The week's highlights, with sub-titles. Presented by Jan Leeming.

6.30 The Money Programme: Includes an interview with the *Australian entrepreneur,* Kerry Packer. Plus a preview of the new car with the old Jensen marque.

7.15 Did You See. . . . ? Television discussion forum, presided over by Ludovic Kennedy. Tonight's topics: The Garden of Inheritance; The Jewel in the *Crown;* and Arena – The Life and Times of Luis Buñuel. The panel: M M Kaye, and Coum McCabe. Also, TV versions of novels with contributions from Malcolm Bradbury, Elaine Morgan and Ken Taylor.

8.05 Cricket: The Third Test. Action from the third day's play.

8.35 All the World's a Stage: Third film in Ronald Harwood's 13-part history of the theatre. Tonight: the origins of comedy (Frankie Howerd in scenes from Plautus's The Haunted House, and the American musical A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum). Others taking part include Peter Jones and the *Greek Art Theatre.*

9.30 The Weather in the Streets: Julian Mitchell's adaptation of Rosamond Lehmann's novel stars Michael York and Lisa *Eichhorn as the adulterous* lovers, with Joanna Lumley, Faith Brook and Holly de Jong. The setting: England in the 1920s and 1930s. Superbly *photographed* by John Hooper. Music by Carl Davis. Directed Gavin Millar.

11.35 News: read by Jan Leeming.

11.40 World Bowls: The best of the *action in the final of the* Embassy World Indoor Championships. Ends at 12.35am.

CHANNEL 4

1.45 The Making of Britain: Dr Lian de Paor, of University College, Dublin, on the advent of Christianity in sixth century Britain.

2.15 The Irish Angle: Informed comment on a topical issue.

2.45 Film: Variety Jubilee (1943*): A celebration of British musical hall: the story of two generations of show folk. With veteran music hall favourites like George Robey, Ella Retford and Charles Coburn. Director: Maclean Rogers.

4.15 Jack's Game: A wild rabbit hunt in Yorkshire.

4.45 *The Motor Show:* For the motoring enthusiast and the humble. From A to B *driver.* "Kit" cars are examined, and so is rust on vehicles. The Peugeot 205 is family-tested.

5.15 News headlines. Followed by: – Seven Days: *Moral* and religious isses in the news.

5.45 Face the Press: Peter Evans (The Times) and Robin Lustig (Observer) interview metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Kenneth Newman. With Anthony Howard.

6.15 Cricket: The Benson and *Hedges World Series Cup.* The best-of-three final stage. To reach it . Australia, the West Indies and Pakistan have battled through 15 preliminary *games on* Sydney's cricket ground.

7.15 The World at War: Part 17 (of 26) sees Britain and the US assembling the largest *invasion fleet in history.* The culmination was June 6 – D-Day, 1944. (r).

8.15 The Jewel in the Crown: A second chance to see episode 6 (of 14) of this TV version of Paul Scott's "Raj Quartet" (r).

9.15 The First Christian: The story of St Paul's first mission to the non-Jewish world, through Cyprus and Asia Minor.

10.15 Land of Bitterness and Pride: Nina Gladitz documentary in which she examines the impact that the German film *director* Werner Hertzog had on a Peruvian village during the shooting of his movie *Fitzcarraldo.* (see the film on Channel 4, on Wednesday night).

11.20 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Man from the South. Roald Dahl story of a gambler with some macabre habits. Starring in this grisly tale about a bet are Steve McQueen, Peter Lorre, Neile Adams and Tyler McVey* Ends at 11.50.

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping. 6.30 News; Morning has broken. 6.55 Weather; Travel; 7.00 News; 7.10 Sunday Papers. *7.15 Apna Hi Ghar Samajhive.* 7.45 Bells. 7.50 Turning Over New Leaves. 7.55 Weather; Travel; 8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers.
8.15 Sunday.
8.50 Week's Good Cause: Joanna Lumley (National Association of Youth Clubs). 8.55 Weather; Travel; 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers.
9.15 Letter From America with Alistair *Cooke.*
9.30 Morning Service (from St Mary's Church, Bamber Bridge, Preston).
10.15 The Archers. Omnibus edition.
11.15 Weekend.
12.00 Smash of the Day: 'I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again' (r). 12.30 The Food Programme. 12.55 Weather; Programme News. 1.00 The World This Weekend: News.
2.00 News; Gardeners' Question *Time. Listeners' questions.*
2.30 Afternoon Theatre 'Just Between Ourselves' by Alan Aychbourn. Peter Vaughan plays the even-tempered, unimaginative man who is surely and slowly driving *his wife mad. At moments* of crisis in his marriage, he can always escape to his garage, where there is a job to be botched or his friend to be entertained. With Jennifer Piercev and Nigel Anthony (r).
4.00 News; Talking About Antiques.
4.30 The Living World.
5.00 News; Travel.
5.05 Down Your Way visits Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.
6.00 News.
6.15 Feedback.
6.30 Sounds Like Winter. Roger McGough with his choice of *poetry, prose and music.*
7.00 Travel; The Killing Season by Arthur Jefferson. A thriller serial for radio in six parts (5).
7.30 Bookshelf.
8.00 Music to Remember. *Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, City of* Birmingham SO play Prokofiev's Violin Concerto (Caplan, soloist), and Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet.†
8.45 The Hidden Years. The second of *six extracts from the forthcoming novel by Neil Boyd.*
9.00 News; The Fountain Overflows by Rebecca West. Part 3.
10.00 News.
10.15 I Do Not Belong Here (s) A *portrait of the French novelist* Alain-Fournier (1886-1914). Crawford Logan plays Alain-Fournier in this feature, written by Roger Kendall. Contributors include the writer's biographer *Prof Robert Gibson* and the novelist John Fowles.
11.00 An Unlikely Journey. With Father William Hewlett, SJ. (2)
11.15 Inside Parliament. 12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Shipping Forecast. 12.23-12.28 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.

Radio 3

7.25 Cricket. The Third Test; 7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Jacqueline du Pre: Cello works. Beethoven's Piano Trio in D, Op 70 No 1 (Ghost); and Saint-Saens's Cello Concerto (New Philharmonia Orch)†. 9.00 News.
9.05 Your Concert Choice: Vanhal's Organ Conc in F; Chopin's Polonaises in A, Op 40 No 1 and in F sharp Minor, Op 44 (Pollini); Vaughan Williams's A London Symphony.†
10.30 Music Weekly: Includes a conversation with Edward Cowie; and an item on the Belgian saxophone maker Adolphe Sax.†
11.20 From the Proms: Fires of London, and Mary Thomas (soprano) Cimmerian Nocturne; Peter Maxwell Davies's Revelation and Fall: Elliott Carter's Triple Duo; and Sandy Wilson's (arr Maxwell *Davies) suite The Boy Friend.*†
1.00 Shura Cherkassky: piano recital. Bach's (arr Busoni) Chcaconne in D minor Schumann's Studes symphoniques, Op 13.†
2.55 BBC Welsh SO: with Irina Tseitlin (violin). *Grace Williams's* Penillion; Elgar's Violin Concerto, Op 61, and William Mathias's Requiecat.†
4.15 Brahms Lieder: performed by Susan Kessler (mezzo), Geoffrey *Parsons (piano). Stephen* Roberts (baritone) and Paul Hamburger (piano).
5.10 Waltschmerz, or What You Will: Russell Davies on the achievements of the Disney *empire.*
6.00 Edward Cowie: His Choral Symphony Op 24 can be heard at 6.45. Before that, Berlioz's overture Les francs-juges and Rachmaninov's symphonic poem The Isle of the Dead. Royal Liverpool Phil Orch, Leeds Festival Chorus, David Wilson-Johnson (baritone).†
7.30 Music for Flute and Piano: Suzanne Shulman and Valerie *Tryon in works by* Schubert, Enesco, and Srul Irving Glick (Sonata for flute and piano).†
8.15 Waiting for the Resurrection: Arab writers and critics interviewed by Dr Robin Ostel of the School of Oriental and African Studies.
9.00 Choral and Orchestral Concert: from Birmingham. Part one. The CBSO, with chorus and soloists, in the first performance of John Joubert's Gong-Tormented Sea.†
9.35 An Umbrella from Piccadilly: Hugh Burden reads poems by Jaroslav Seifert.
10.00 Concert: Part two. Beethoven's Symph No 9 (The Choral).†11.15 News until 11.18
VHF: Open University. 6.55am to 7.55am.

Radio 2

4.00 George Ferguson incl.† 4.02, 5.02 Cricket. 6.00 Sheila Tracy incl.† 6.03 Cricket 7.30 Paul McDowell†incl. 7.45 *Bishop Bill Westwood. 9.00 David* Jacobs with Melodies for You. 11.00 Desmond Carrington. 12.30 The Best of Bentine†incl. 12.53 Sports Desk. 1.03 David Hamilton with Two's Best†. 2.00 Benny Green†. 3.00 Alan Dell†. 4.00 *String Sound with Jean Challis*†. 4.30 Sing Something Simple†. 5.00 Charlie Chester with your Sunday Soapbox, incl. 5.58 Sports Desk. 6.00 Comedy Classics: 'The Navy Lark' (r). 6.30 Robert Docker with George French and *his orchestra*†. 7.00 Billie Jean King talks to Gerald Williams. 7.30 Grand Hotel. 8.30 Sunday Half-hour from St John's United Reformed Church, Kenton, Harrow. 9.00 Your Hundred Best Tunes incl. 10.02 Sports Desk. 10.05 Marching and Waltzing. 11.00 Sounds of Jazz with Peter Clayton. 1.00am Jean Challis†presents Nightride. 3.00-4.00 David Hamilton with Two's Best.

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Sunday Show. 10.00 Adrian Justa. 12.00 Jimmy Savile's 'Old record' *Club. 2.00 Steve Wright.* 4.30 The Great Rock 'N' Roll Trivia Quiz. 5.00 Top 40.† 7.00 Anne Nightingale.† 9.00 Robbie Vincent.† 11.0-12.00 From Mento to Lovers' Rock. A history of Jamaican music. 7: The Arrival of Reggae †

World Service, facing page

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS FOR SATURDAY

BBC 1 *Wales: 5.15-5.20pm* Sports News Wales. 1.30am Weather. **Scotland:** 12.15-5.05pm As Grandstand (BBC1) except: 3.30-3.50; 3.55-4.15 World Bowls: (Embassy World Indoor Bowls Championship). 5.15-5.20 *Scoreboard.* 10.40-12.00 Sportscene: Olympic Special: Ice Hockey: (Canada v Finland; Sweden v West Germany) plus Bowls: (Ebassy World Indoor Championship). 1.35am Close. **Northern Ireland:** 4.55-5.05pm Northern Ireland *results.* 5.15-5.20 News. 1.30am News headlines. **England:** 5.15-5.20pm London – Sport. South West (Plymouth) – Spotlight Sport. All other English regions – Sport/Regional News. 1.35am Close.

S4C Starts 2.05pm Week in Politics. 2.45 Basketball. 3.40 Film: Swarm in May. 5.05 Yr Awr Fawr. 6.05 Incredible Hulk. 7.00 Ser. 7.30 Nweyddion. 7.45 Siwrne Dda! 8.25 Treasure Hunt. 9.25 Y Maes Chwarae. 10.15 Arolwg. 10.45 Dream Stuffing. 11.15 Film: And Then There Were None (Walter Huston) Agatha Christie mystery. 1.00am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: Starts 9.30am Noddy. 9.45 Smurfs. 10.10-10.30 Falcon Island. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Reflections. 11.05 Devlin Connection. 12.00 Newhart.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Sesame Street. 10.20-10.30 Cartoon. 5.35pm-6.30 *Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock 'n'* Roll. 12.00 Film: If It's a Man . . . Hang Up. 1.20am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. .35 Stingray. 10.00 Flying Kiwi. 10.25-10.30 Mouse on Mars. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Saturday Night Music Show. 12.05am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 9.25am Vicky the Viking. 9.50 Once Upon a Time . . . Man. 10.15-10.30 Smurfs. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Fugitive. 12.00 Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: Starts 9.35am Vicky the Viking. 10.05-10.30 Stingray. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock 'n' Roll. 12.00 At The End of The Day, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 9.25am Wattoo Wattoo. 9.35 Smurfs. 10.00 Mork and Mindy. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Jazz. 11.30 Comedy Tonight. 12.00 Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am Morning Glory. 9.30 Sport Billy. 9.55 Flying Kiwi. 10.25-10.30 TT Time. 5.05pm News. 5.07 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock and Roll. 11.55 Journey to the Unknown. 12.50am Poet's Corner. 12.55 Closedown.

ULSTER 9.25am Space 1999. 10.20-10.30 Cartoon. 4.55pm-5.00 Ulster Sports Results. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Star Parade: Cliff Richard. 12.00 News, Closedown.

HTV As London except: 9.25am Sesame Street. 10.25-10.30 Cartoon. 5.35pm-6.30 *Knight Rider.* 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Newhart. 12.30am Closedown. HTV WALES: No variation.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Thunderbirds. 10.20-10.30 Puffins Plaice. 5.05pm Puffins Plaice. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. The story of some furry folk (first cousins to the Muppets?) who live underneath a lighthouse. With Fulton Mackay as the only human in the cast. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock 'n' Roll. 12.00 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30 Metal Mickey. With Irene *Handl and the lovable robot.* 9.55 Wattoo, Wattoo. 10.00-10.30 Green Hornet. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock 'n' Roll. 12.00 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.30 Freeze Frame. 5.05pm Newsport. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.00 Roots of Rock 'n' Roll. 12.00 Washington Trail. 12.25am Postscript, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE *As London except:* 9.25am Melottors. 9.35 Flying Kiwi. 10.00-10.30 University Challenge. 5.35-pm-6.30 Night Rider. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45 City of Angels. 12.40am Closedown.

Sunday's regional variations appear on the facing page

Computer age gives Johanna hope for future

By Thomson Prentice

A kiss for her mother communicates Johanna Mitchell's thoughts and feelings more meaningfully than words could perhaps ever express. Johanna, aged four, will never be able to say "I love you". Talking, like walking, was permanently denied before she was born.

But to live in the world that awaits her, Johanna, who suffered "catastrophic" brain damage in hospital because of oxygen shortage while in the womb, must learn to communicate.

She cannot speak and has little control of her arms and legs, but in awarding her £220,760 damages for negligence last Wednesday, Mr Justice Kenneth Jones said in the High Court that the computer might help that vital communication.

It will, although progress will be agonisingly slow. For a child who may never be able to grasp a pencil, understanding even the basic layout of a simplified computer keyboard is a huge challenge to herself, parents and teachers.

But Johanna has begun. Every day she is taken across the Surrey countryside from her home in Leatherhead to the White Lodge Centre at Chertsey, a charity-funded specialist school, staffed by a wide range of therapists.

They, with the help at home of her mother, Mrs Joyce Mitchell, aged 27, have taught her that to clap her hands means "please" and that two taps on her chest with her fist means "sorry". The computer might, one day, teach her to spell her name.

"It is not a communication aid," stressed Dr Janet Larcher, who designed most of the 40 programs, which depict houses, cars and cats, as well as words and letters. "For the time being, it can be no more than an educational tool."

The screen shows Johanna her name writ large. A touch-sensitive keyboard contains the same letters. If she could reach out and touch, the letters would appear below her name. In the wrong order, they are accompanied by a cross. If correct, they win a congratulatory tick.

In the meantime, just recognising that it is her name is a minor triumph. Despite her handicaps, Johanna is of at least normal intelligence. She is bright, mischievious, and most of all aware; and that will hurt.

Mr Justice Jones said: "Her intelligence is such that she will be aware of her disabilities and contrast her position with other, normal people."

Johanna has used the system of Bliss Symbolics, invented by the Austrian Charles Bliss and introduced in Britain in 1976, to learn the meaning of 39 symbols on a chart. She can point to the sign for mummy, or daddy, or school.

Mrs Judy Chisholm, communication therapist at White Lodge, said: "We are trying to offer children like Johannna some means of making sense of the world they live in. The computer may help, but no-one should mistake it for a miracle."

The principal, Mrs Carol Myer, said: "Nobody yet knows Johanna's potential. Our task and our target is to help her reach towards it."



From a happy Johanna – a kiss for mother at their home. Photographs: Chris Harris





Future by the fingertips: A computer challenge and a piano toy which helps to link thought and action.

Royal Navy flies 400 from Beirut

Continued from page 1

distant sound of explosions came from the mountains to the east where the Israelis were bombing the Druze-held town of Bhamdoun.

Occasional shell bursts could be heard from the port area of the city as the British formed a queue in front of the Embassy, boarding the helicopters in groups of 20 under the orders of a naval lieutenant.

At the time, almost 350 American residents just 200 yards further down the corniche were being airlifted out of Beirut in US Chinook helicopters which flew the evacuees to Sixth Fleet ships offshore.

The British took their own passengers from the Reliant to Cyprus in a separate fleet of helicoptors while the Greek ferry Sol Georgias put into Jounieh harbour 12 miles north of Beirut to collect British evacuees from the eastern sector of the city.

Nevertheless, as many as 900 British residents are believed to have decided to stay on in Lebanon. The operation took almost all day and the only shot fired in the area of the evacuation came when a Druze gunman accidentally fired his pistol into the ground near the British Embassy.

It was nonetheless extraordinary that the Druse should have so faithfully protected the evacuation throughout the day. After being shelled in their mountains on Thursday by Phalangist guns and bombarded overnight by a US destroyer and then bombed by Israeli jets yesterday, the Druze militia leadership still decided to stand by the promise to guard the evacuees.

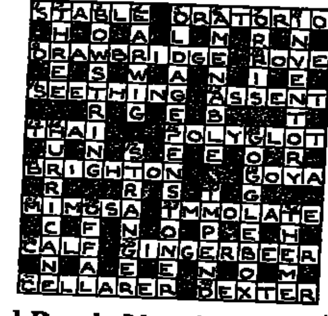
"I don't like doing this" one gunman said, "but my boss Walid Jumblatt said I must protect the Americans and the British."

Lebanon crisis, page 5

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,351

Solution of Puzzle No. 16,346



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,352

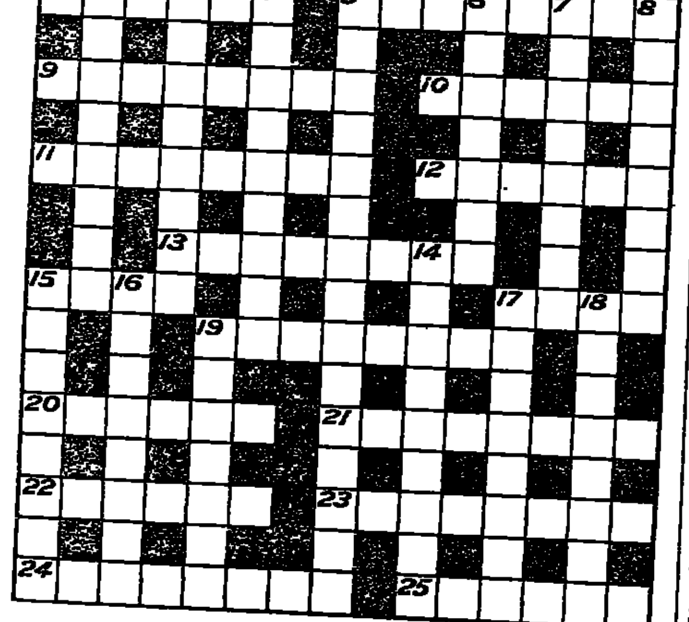
A prize of The Times Atlas of the World *(comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

The winners of last Saturday's competition are:

Sqn. Ldr. R. R. Burton, 27 Elgin Gardens, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr H. S. Dalton, 1 Oakdene, Oaks Avenue, Upper Norwood, London; Mrs U Sutcliffe, 18 Rouse Gardens, London, SE21.

Name ....

Address ....



ACROSS

1 Save me coming back, following previous advice (6).
5 Changed daily, like a seasoned traveller (8).
9 One by one, island after island appears in turbulent stream (8).
10 Sporadic base for a divine exile (6).
11 Sewer produces saving in time, with engineers' backing (8).
12 One of four everyone used to be in or out of (6).
13 Another one to contend with, say, for a beginner (8).
15 Experienced sort of writer? (4).
17 Trees named in the Spanish text (4).
19 Young shaver going over the top (8).
20 Left with it? Some service! (6).
21 Examines musical instrument beset by bugs (8).
22 Beats west or south on the way back (6).
23 Sets aside German currency with external loan requested by Antony (8).
24 Herb has one, two or three girls (8).
25 Revolting daily practice on waking (6).

DOWN

2 Happening to die in agony at nightfall (8).
3 Is within reach of the living (8).
4 Able to cope with hair, using one arm (9).
5 How to get an all-round education (15).
6 Step dance (7).
7 Secretary takes exam in time (8).
8 With this warrant may one remove locks? (8).
14 Finance officer more confident after adjustment of rate (9).
15 Admirer in sort of wolf role (8).
16 Reproofs from Reith? (8).
17 Utterly impossible, sometimes, to insert a word like this (8).
18 Wrong motorway to use going up-country (8).
19 Study can't anyhow be included in the total (7).

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Princess of Wales attends a gala performance of *Carmen* by the London City Ballet in Oslo: departs Heathrow South, 10.55.

Princess Anne, President of the British Olympic Association, attends the fourteenth Olympic Winter Games at Sarajevo, Yugoslavia: departs RAF Lyneham, 11.35.

New exhibitions

Images in a studio by Bohuslav Barlow: Lancaster City Museum, Market Square, **Lancaster**: Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 5 (until March 10).

The Nude: drawings by British artists over the past 140 years: Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, **Lincoln**: Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until March 11).

Turbans, textiles, pots and painting: Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Central Library, Lichfield Street, **Walsall**: Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45 (until March 10).

Sculpture's Dance: City Museum and Art Gallery, Broad Street, Hanley, **Stoke-on Trent**; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed to 8 (until March 10).

Photographs, pen and ink illustrations and paintings by Stuart Roy: Chelmsford and Essex Museum, Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, **Chelmsford**: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until March 25).

Wet paint: recent work: Festival gallery, 1 Pierrepont Place, **Bath**; Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (until March 3).

Action in sport: paintings and drawings by Simon Painter; Helios Pictures, 2 Salisbury Road, Moseley, **Birmingham**; Mon to Sat 9.30 to 6 (until March 7).

New London exhibitions

Korean embroideries; Room 98, Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.50, Sun 2.30 to 5.50, closed Fri (until April 15).

Deborah Von Greyerz-Monroe, prints and works on paper; Pat Schaverien, prints; two exhibitions at the Woodlands Art Gallery, 90 Mycenae Road, Blackheath SE3; Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6, closed Weds (until March 6).

Last chance to see

Scottish football: an exhibition of trophies, medals, jerseys, photographs and video: Aberdeen Art Galleries, School Hill, **Aberdeen**; 10 to 5 (ends today).

The body electric: ballet and dance photography from 1859 to the present day; Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, **York**; 10 to 6 (ends today).

Music

Concert by Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet, Stamford Arts Centre, **Stamford**, 8.

Concert by the North Gloucestershire Youth Choir, Cirencester Parish Church, **Cirencester**, 7.30.

Violin recital by Kim Sjögren, St James's Church, **Chipping Campden**, Gloucestershire, 7.30.

Concert by Philharmonia Orchestra, St David's Hall, **Cardiff**, 7.30.

Concert by the English Chamber Orchestra, with Murray Perahia (piano), Turner Sims Concert Hall, Southampton University, 8.

Concert by St John's College, Cambridge Musical Society; Senate House, Cambridge, 8.30.

Tomorrow

Music

Concert by the Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet; The Regent Centre, High Street, Christchurch, Dorset, 7.30.

Recital by Gothic Voices; Peter Morrison Recital Room, Little Benslow Hills, Benslow Lane, Hitchin, 8.

Viennese evening with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Pavilion, Sandown, 3.

New exhibitions

Warp, weft and twine: varied approaches to weaving; Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, **Lincoln**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until March 11).

In the garden

If you intend to buy bulbs, corms or tubers for summer flowering order them now before supplies run out. If you normally buy them at a local shop or garden centre, still buy them now, before they deteriorate in uncongenial conditions. Keep gladioulus corms dry and in a cool room or greenhouse – frost free of course – and begonia tubers in moist peat in a fairly warm room or greenhouse. Lillies, of course, should never be allowed to dry up and shrivel and the sooner they are planted the better.

If you want early gladiolus flowers set the corms in trays in a heated room or greenhouse this month to sprout and plant them out in March. The new dwarf large flowered gladioli which need no staking are a real breakthrough – church flower arrangers, please note!

If we are lucky enough to have open weather in the next few weeks, rake-scarify-lawns to remove dead grass and decaying debris from last summer's mowings. Do it a bit at a time, as raking a lawn is hard work, but it really does tone up the turf. If you plan to sow peas, broad beans and lettuces soon and you have cloches, set these in place now to allow the soil to dry out a bit and warm up ready for sowing in a couple of weeks time.

RH

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.59	1.51
Austria Sch	28.60	27.00
Belgium Fr	84.50	80.50
Canada $	1.83	1.76
Denmark Kr	14.68	13.98
Finland Mkk	8.65	8.25
France Fr	12.30	11.80
Germany DM	4.02	3.84
Greece Dr	162.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.35	10.75
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.25
Italy Lira	2460.00	2360.00
Japan Yen	347.00	331.00
Netherlands Gld	4.57	4.34
Norway Kr	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	200.00	190.00
South Africa Rd	1.94	1.80
Spain Pta	227.00	218.00
Sweden Kr	11.95	11.35
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.11
USA $	1.46	1.41
Yugoslavia Dur	210.00	200.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 342.8

London: The *FT* Index closed up 4.1 at 805.4.

Roads

Wales and West: A35: Roadworks at Loughwood, Devon, between Axminster and Honiton; temporary traffic signals at Bow Bridge. **A40:** Roadworks at Raglan, Gwent, on road to Micheltroy and Monmouth; temporary traffic signals in operation 24 hours a day. **A377:** Roadworks at Bonhay (Barnstaple) Road, Exeter; temporary traffic lights.

Midlands and East Anglia: A47: Roundabout construction at Great Yarmouth. **A52:** Roadworks at Muston Bends, Leicester; single lane traffic, temporary signals. **A45:** Roadworks at Fosse crossing, Warwickshire, between Coventry and Daventry.

North: A689: Remedial work to Waskerley Bridge, Wolsingham, co Durham; traffic lights. **A628:** Improvement work to the Thurleston river bridge, single lane traffic controlled by traffic signals. **A691/A692:** Roadworks (stage one) at Leadgate bypass, co Durham.

Scotland: A739: Gantry foundation work south of Clyde tunnel; inside lane closed. **A956:** Construction of a roundabout on Wellington road, Aberdeen, at South Esplanade West; care required. **A87:** Rock scaling will periodically halt traffic for up to 10 minutes between Shield Bridge and Cluanie, Ross and Cromarty; traffic reduced to single lane, controlled by lights.

Information supplied by the AA

Lighting-up times

TODAY
London 5.37 pm to 6.52 am
Bristol 5.47 pm to 7.1 am
Edinburgh 5.36 pm to 7.17 am
Manchester 5.40 pm to 7.5 am
Penzance 6.2 pm to 7.10 am

TOMORROW
London 5.39 pm to 6.50 am
Bristol 5.49 pm to 7.0 am
Edinburgh 5.38 pm to 7.14 am
Manchester 5.42 pm to 7.3 am
Penzance 6.4 pm to 7.8 am

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: **William Henry Fox Talbot**, pioneer of photography, Laycock Abbey, Wiltshire, 1800; **Thomas Alva Edison**, inventor of the phonograph and other electrical innovations, Milan, Ohio, 1847.

Deaths: **Honoré Daumier**, Caricaturist, Valmondois, France, 1879; **Sir Charles Parsons**, inventor of the steam turbine, Kingston, Jamaica, 1931; **John Buchan**, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, statesman, governor-general of Canada 1935-40, and novelist, Montreal, 1940.

TOMORROW: Births: **Thomas Campion**, composer and poet, London, 1567; **George Hadley**, physicist and meteorologist, London, 1685; **Charles Darwin**, Shrewsbury, 1809; **Abraham Lincoln**, sixteenth president of the United States (1861-65), Hodgenville, Kentucky, 1809; **George Meredith**, novelist, Portsmouth, 1828; **Max Beckmann**, expressionist painter, Leipzig, 1884.

Deaths: **Lady Jane Grey**, executed, London, 1554; **Immanuel Kant**, philosopher, Königsberg, Prussia (Kaliningrad, Soviet Union), 1804; **Sir Astley Cooper**, surgeon, London, 1841; **Lillie Langtry**, Monte Carlo, 1929.

© TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1984. Printed and published by Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ, England. Telephone: 01-837 1234. Telex: 264971. Saturday February 11 1984. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

Weather

With anticyclones centred to the S and E, pressure will continue high over the British Isles

6am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia: Mainly dry, rather cloudy at times, some brighter intervals developing; wind mainly NW, moderate, becoming variable, light; max temp 8 or 9C (46 to 48F).

Midlands, NW, central S, N England: Dry, any fog patches clearing slowly, sunny intervals developing; wind variable, light; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).

E, NE England: Dry, sunny periods; wind variable, light; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).

Wales, Channel Islands, Lake District, SW England: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, rather cloudy near coasts, wind variable, mainly S, light or moderate, max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

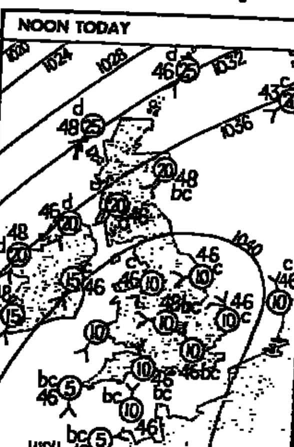
Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Mainly dry, some sunny intervals, perhaps a little drizzle in places; wind S, or SW, light or moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Dry, sunny intervals; wind mainly S, light or moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, a little drizzle in places but some brighter intervals inland; wind S, or SW, moderate or fresh, locally strong; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Little change, mainly dry with some sunny intervals and temperatures a little above normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, moderate, veering N, light; sea slight. **English Channel (E):** Wind variable, light; sea smooth. **St George's Channel:** Wind variable, mainly SW, light; sea slight. **Irish Sea:** Wind SW, light or moderate; sea slight.



b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.24 am · Sun sets: 5.7 pm
Moon rises: 11.6 am · Moon sets: 2.29 am
Full Moon: February 17.

TOMORROW

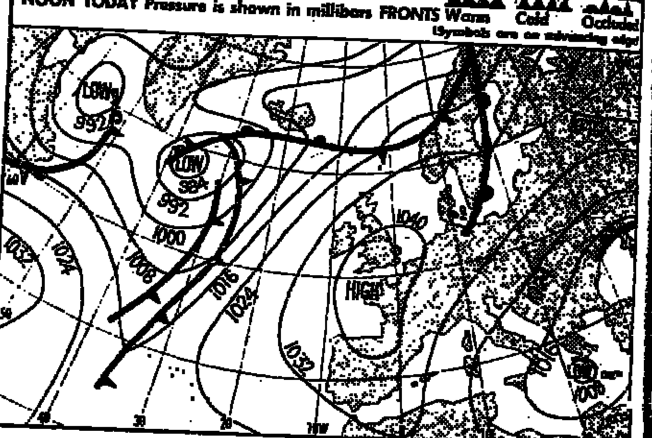
Sun rises: 7.22 am · Sun sets: 5.8 pm
Moon rises: 11.41am · Moon sets: 3.45 am
Full Moon: February 17.

Highest and lowest

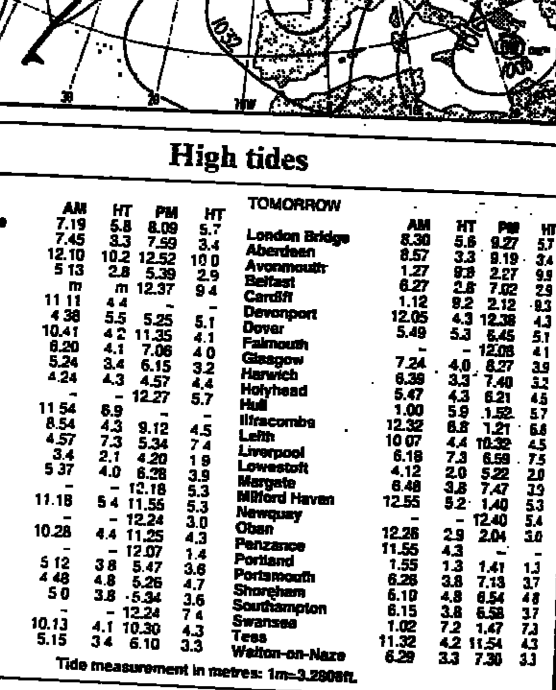
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Scarborough, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Margate, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Kirkwall, 0.08ins; highest sunshine: Jersey, 6.4hrs.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 79 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 1-3hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1040.7 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.



High tides



TODAY

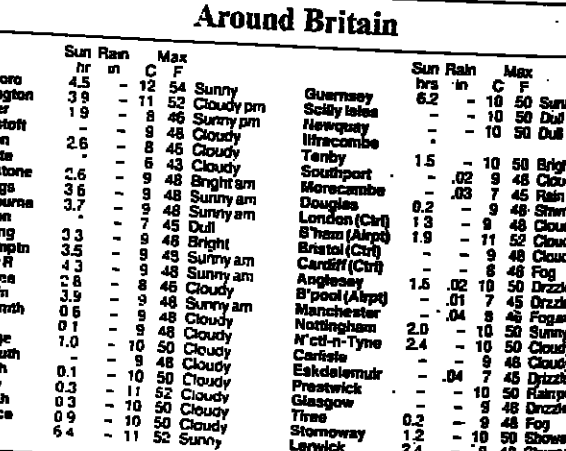
	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.19	5.8	8.09	5.7
Aberdeen	7.45	3.3	7.59	3.4
Avonmouth	12.10	10.2	12.52	10.0
Belfast	5.13	2.8	5.39	2.9
Cardiff	m	m	12.37	9.4
Devonport	11.11	4.4	-	-
Dover	4.38	5.5	5.25	5.1
Falmouth	10.41	4.2	11.35	4.1
Glasgow	6.20	4.1	7.06	4.0
Harwich	5.24	3.4	6.15	3.2
Holyhead	4.24	4.3	4.57	4.4
Hull	-	-	12.27	5.7
Ilfracombe	11.54	8.9	-	-
Leith	8.54	4.3	9.12	4.5
Liverpool	4.57	7.3	5.34	7.4
Lowestoft	3.4	2.1	4.20	1.9
Margate	5.37	4.0	6.28	3.9
Milford Haven	-	-	12.18	5.3
Newquay	11.18	5.4	11.55	5.3
Oban	-	-	12.24	3.0
Penzance	10.28	4.4	11.25	4.3
Portland	-	-	12.07	1.4
Portsmouth	5.12	3.8	5.47	3.6
Shoreham	4.48	4.8	5.26	4.7
Southampton	5.0	3.8	5.34	3.6
Swansea	-	-	12.24	7.4
Tees	10.13	4.1	10.30	4.3
Walton-on-Naze	5.15	3.4	6.10	3.3

TOMORROW

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.30	5.6	9.27	5.7
Aberdeen	8.57	3.3	9.19	3.4
Avonmouth	1.27	9.8	2.27	9.9
Belfast	6.27	2.8	7.02	2.9
Cardiff	1.12	8.2	2.12	8.3
Devonport	12.05	4.3	12.38	4.3
Dover	5.49	5.3	6.45	5.1
Falmouth	-	-	12.08	4.1
Glasgow	7.24	4.0	8.27	3.9
Harwich	6.39	3.3	7.40	3.2
Holyhead	5.47	4.3	6.21	4.5
Hull	1.00	5.9	1.52	5.7
Ilfracombe	12.32	6.8	1.21	6.8
Leith	10.07	4.4	10.32	4.5
Liverpool	6.18	7.3	6.59	7.5
Lowestoft	4.12	2.0	5.22	2.0
Margate	6.48	3.8	7.47	3.9
Milford Haven	12.55	5.2	1.40	5.3
Newquay	-	-	12.40	5.4
Oban	12.26	2.9	2.04	3.0
Penzance	11.55	4.3	-	-
Portland	1.55	1.3	1.41	1.3
Portsmouth	6.26	3.8	7.13	3.7
Shoreham	6.10	4.8	6.54	4.8
Southampton	6.15	3.8	6.58	3.7
Swansea	1.02	7.2	1.47	7.3
Tees	11.32	4.2	11.54	4.3
Walton-on-Naze	6.29	3.3	7.30	3.1

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	4.5	-	12	54	Sunny
Bridlington	3.9	-	11	52	Cloudy pm
Cromer	1.9	-	8	46	Sunny pm
Lowestoft	-	-	9	48	Cloudy
Clacton	2.6	-	8	46	Cloudy
Margate	·	-	6	43	Cloudy
Folkestone	2.6	-	9	48	Bright am
Hastings	3.6	-	9	48	Sunny am
Eastbourne	3.7	-	9	48	Sunny am
Brighton	·	-	7	45	Dull
Worthing	3.3	-	9	48	Bright
Littlehmptn	3.5	-	9	48	Sunny am
Bognor R	4.3	-	9	48	Sunny am
Southsea	2.8	-	8	46	Cloudy
Shanklin	3.9	-	9	48	Sunny am
Bournemth	0.6	-	9	48	Cloudy
Poole	0.1	-	9	48	Cloudy
Swanage	1.0	-	10	50	Cloudy
Weymouth	-	-	9	48	Cloudy
Exmouth	0.1	-	10	50	Cloudy
Torquay	0.3	-	11	52	Cloudy
Falmouth	0.3	-	10	50	Cloudy
Penzance	0.9	-	10	50	Cloudy
Jersey	6.4	-	11	52	Sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	6.2	-	10	50	Sunny
Scilly Isles	-	-	10	50	Dull
Newquay	-	-	10	50	Dull
Ilfracombe	·				
Tenby	1.5	-	10	50	Bright
Southport	-	.02	9	48	Cloudy
Morecambe	-	.03	7	45	Rain pm
Douglas	0.2	-	9	48	Shwrs pm
London (Ctrl)	1.3	-	9	48	Cloudy
B'ham (Airpt)	1.9	-	11	52	Cloudy
Bristol (Ctrl)	-	-	9	48	Cloudy
Cardiff (Ctrl)	-	-	8	46	Fog
Anglesey	1.5	.02	10	50	Drzzle am
B'pool (Airpt)	-	.01	7	45	Drzzle am
Manchester	-	.04	8	46	Fog am
Nottingham	2.0	-	10	50	Sunny pm
N'ctl-n-Tyne	2.4	-	10	50	Cloudy
Carlisle	-	-	9	48	Cloudy
Eskdalemuir	-	.04	7	45	Drizzle
Prestwick	-	-	10	50	Rain pm
Glasgow	-	-	9	48	Drizzle
Tiree	0.2	-	9	48	Fog
Stornoway	1.2	-	10	50	Showers
Lerwick	2.4	-	9	48	Shwrs pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F
Ajaccio	s	13	55
Akrotiri	s	19	66
Alexandria			
Algiers	c	11	52
Amsterdam	f	7	45
Athens	f	14	57
Bahrain	s	21	70
Barbados			
Barcelona	s	16	61
Beirut			
Belgrade	sn	0	32
Berlin	c	1	34
Bermuda			
Biarritz	s	8	46
Boulogne	s	7	45
Bordeaux	s	6	43
Brussels	s	7	45
Budapest	f	4	39
Buen Aires*			
Cairo	s	24	75
Cape Tn			
C'blanca	s	15	59
Chicago			
Cologne	c	3	37
Copenhgn	f	2	36
Corfu	f	11	52
Dallas			
Dublin	c	10	50
Dubrovnik	f	5	41
Faro	s	16	61
Florence	s	11	52
Frankfurt	c	1	34
Funchal	c	17	63
Geneva	s	4	39
Gibraltar	c	16	61
Helsinki	s	-2	28
Hongkong	c	15	59
Innsbruck	sn	0	32
Istanbul	f	12	54
Jiddah	c	28	82
Jo'burg			
Karachi	s	24	75
Las Palm*	s	19	66
Lisbon	s	12	54
Locarno	s	9	48
L Angeles			
Luxembg	c	2	36
Madrid	s	12	54
Majorca	s	14	57
Malaga	f	15	59
Malta	f	13	55
Melbourne	s	19	66
Mexico C			
Miami			
Milan	s	12	54
Montreal			
Moscow			
Munich	c	-1	30
Nairobi			
Naples	c	7	45
New Delhi	s	20	68
New York			
Nice	s	14	57
Oslo	c	-2	28
Ottawa			
Paris	c	5	41
Peking	f	-4	25
Perth	s	39	102
Prague	f	0	32
Reykjavik	f	4	39
Rhodes	f	18	64
Riyadh	s	24	75
Rio de Jan			
Rome	f	10	50
Salzburg	sn	-1	30
Sao Paulo			
S Francisco			
Santiago			
Seoul	s	-1	30
Singapore	f	29	84
Stockholm	s	-3	27
Strasbourg	c	3	37
Sydney	s	21	70
Tangier	s	17	63
Tel Aviv	s	23	73
Tenerife*	s	21	70
Tokyo	s	5	41
Toronto			
Tunis	c	11	52
Valencia	c	15	59
Vancouver			
Venice	s	12	54
Vienna	c	1	34
Warsaw	c	0	32
Washington			
Zurich	c	1	34